

## Yeltsin closes noose round Chechnya

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin Monday extended a state of emergency to disputed border areas of the breakaway republic of Chechnya and neighbouring Ingushetia, to the west. Chechnya, a tiny Muslim republic which declared its independence from Moscow in October 1991, predicted the move last Thursday and warned that it "will be considered by Chechnya as an act of military aggression," and put its armed forces on alert. Mr. Yeltsin's decree extends the state of emergency to the disputed regions of Sunzha and Malgobek, both claimed by Chechnya, for two months. Authorities in the breakaway Caucasus republic earlier Monday accused the Russian secret service of staging an assassination attempt last Friday on President Dzhokhar Dudayev. Moscow denied the allegations.

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## Russian envoy wraps up Middle East tour

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A senior Russian envoy wrapped up a tour of the Middle East Monday by meeting with the Palestinian leadership and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. "Rabin assured me that the government of Israel will keep and fulfill its commitments in the peace process," Viktor Posovalyuk said. Posovalyuk met Mr. Rabin to give him a message from Russian President Boris Yeltsin. He would not say what the message contained. In a meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Mr. Posovalyuk urged Palestinians to avoid internal violence in setting up their self-rule. "We call on Palestinians at this stage to stand united and not to use force against each other," he said. Mr. Posovalyuk, who heads the Russian foreign ministry's Department for Africa and the Middle East, also visited Jordan, Syria and Lebanon during his tour. He has made periodic visits to the region in the past year amid Russian attempts to remain involved in peace efforts.

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## Kuwait delays ruling on 10 Jordanians

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti court Monday again postponed ruling on an appeal by 10 Jordanians sentenced to death for allegedly helping Iraqi troops during their 1990-91 occupation. The court of cassation, the top appeal court, said it would deliver a decision on June 6 but gave no reason for the delay. It postponed a ruling at its previous hearing on the case, on April 11, also without explanation. The state security court on June 12, 1993 sentenced the 10 to death for allegedly helping Iraq's 1990 invasion. It sentenced an 11th Jordanian to four years jail and a 1,000-dinar (\$3,350) fine. The prosecution described the 11, believed to be of Palestinian origin, as soldiers of the armed wing of the Arab Liberation Front and claimed they had helped Iraq combat members of Kuwait's civilian resistance.

## Syria rejects call for secret talks

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria, rejecting Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's latest call for secret talks, said Monday that peace with the Jewish state hinges on Israel's full withdrawal from the Golan Heights. It also launched a severe attack on Mr. Rabin accusing him of hindering the achievement of progress in the Syrian-Israeli peace talks. The official daily Tishreen said Mr. Rabin's call, made in an interview broadcast on Sunday, was "provocative." Syria rejected and will reject calls for secret talks, the journal of the Washington talks is the best framework. Tishreen said. Tishreen said: "Syria will never be dragged into partial settlements and will never bargain on lands of the Arab brothers."

## Israel releases hundreds of prisoners

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's bilateral and indirect trade with Morocco has reached \$100 million a year, a top official said Monday. Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish said the sum, balanced between imports and exports, included textile and agricultural trade as well as tourism by thousands of Israelis allowed into Morocco despite the absence of diplomatic relations.

## British MPs hold talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — A delegation of British Labour MPs held talks here Monday with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam on the Middle East peace process, the official Syrian news agency SANA said. The MPs, led by Mike Watson, also visited the destroyed town of Kuneitra on the Golan Heights, where Mr. Watson condemned Israel's annexation of the bulk of the territory. SANA said Mr. Watson called for a total Israeli pullout from the strategic heights, the agency added.

## Israel blocks Palestinian produce

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel has delayed implementation of the autonomy accord by banning produce from the newly autonomous areas until a deal is worked out to compensate Israeli farmers for expected losses, officials said Monday. The Israel-PLO peace agreement allows for nearly unlimited trade of agricultural products between Israel and the Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho. But Agriculture Minister Yaakov Zuri has delayed opening Israel's markets beyond what Palestinian farmers already sell to Israelis, said Ministry spokesman Roni Hassid.

## AM welcomes South Africa

CAIRO (AFP) — The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Monday welcomed South Africa to join the grouping of more than 100 nations, following its first all-race elections last month. The Egyptian news agency MENA reported.

# Sanaa warns U.N. against interfering in its affairs

## Fronts remain calm

SANAA (Agencies) — North Yemen, fearing implicit U.N. recognition of its breakaway southern foes, Monday sent an envoy to tell a planned Security Council debate on the civil war that it will not permit any intervention.

The Sanaa government denounced Tuesday's scheduled Security Council consultation on Yemen as interference in Yemeni affairs. Abdul Aziz Abdul Gahni, a member of the Presidential Council, said before he left Sanaa for New York Monday he would "put facts before the council so that the outcome of the debate will be in harmony with our people's hopes of protecting unity."

Sanaa Radio quoted him as saying he would tell the council the war in Yemen "is an internal affair, intervention in it is not permitted. It is an armed rebellion against the constitutional legitimacy, a violation of the constitution and an aggression against people's lives, stability and security."

The Sanaa government said earlier Monday it wanted to prevent the discussion by the



A south Yemeni soldier fires 130 mm gun towards northern Yemeni forces (AFP photo)

council members. "We are exerting all efforts to have the question dropped from the council's agenda, so that there will be no council decision," Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Ounsi said. He said that if the council decided to take any action, Sanaa would prefer a council appeal rather than a resolution. If either failed to resolve Yemen's unity, then the Sanaa government would reject any council decision.

The U.N. discussion was prompted by Arab states such

as Egypt and Saudi Arabia which Sanaa sees as favouring the south. These states want a U.N. resolution which calls for a truce, an arms embargo and a fact-finding mission to Yemen. The Saudi Press Agency Monday night quoted King Fahd at a cabinet meeting as urging a peaceful end to Yemen's war.

Qatar, however, urged that the Security Council discussion on Yemen be based on rejection of a breakaway southern state.

The official Qatar news agency said Qatar, which has

shown sympathy for the northern president since civil war erupted wanted the debate out of concern for preserving the unity of Yemen, its stability and territorial integrity. The report gave no details but its language indicated rejection of the breakaway state declared by southern leaders on May 21.

Mr. Ounsi said Sanaa would have preferred a delay in any council debate to give a chance to what he said was dialogue with "moderate" members in

# Jordan has not taken sides on war in Yemen — Anani

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior government official Monday reasserted Jordan's neutrality in the civil war in Yemen, saying the Kingdom only supports the unity of the Yemeni people and the quest for a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

"We are with legitimacy in Yemen, with the unity of its land and with respecting the reconciliation accord" which was signed in Amman in February by Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his then-Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh, Information Minister Jawad Anani told the Jordan Times Monday.

Dr. Anani said the Kingdom has not taken sides with either of the parties to the conflict, which developed into civil war on May 4. He said the official media's reference to the government in Aden as "the legitimate government" and to the forces of Mr. Beidh as the "secessionists" does not mean that the Kingdom has sided with Sanaa against Aden. "Jordan supports the unity of Yemen," he said. It did not therefore refer to the warring parties as north and south because that "would mean you have accepted the secession," Dr. Anani said.

"We will not take a stand against legitimacy and say north and south," he said.

"The position of the official media is right. They are calling things by their name because those who declared secession are secessionists," former foreign minister, Deputy Abdullah Al Ensour told the Jordan Times. Insisting that this position does not mean the Kingdom has taken sides with either of the conflicting parties in Yemen, Dr. Al Ensour said "Jordan has a record of not interfering in the internal affairs of any other country." Though blaming the South for seceding, Islamic Action Front (IAF) deputy Abdul Rahim Ekour said: "we did not

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# ESCWA to move to Lebanon

By Natasha Bakhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Heads of the delegations of member states to the 17th ministerial session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Monday voted to relocate the commission's headquarters from Amman to Beirut.

Informed sources told the Jordan Times that the votes in favour of the move to Lebanon were made by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Syria, Kuwait, Egypt and Lebanon. ESCWA headquarters was initially situated in Beirut, but was moved to Baghdad after

the outbreak of the Lebanese civil war. It was then moved to Amman in the aftermath of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Iraq, voted alone to return the headquarters to Baghdad, said the sources.

Qatar voted to have the headquarters located in Doha, and Oman abstained from the voting.

Votes in favour of maintaining the commission's headquarters in Amman, according to sources, were cast by Yemen, Palestine and Jordan.

Jordan sought to call for a postponement of the vote, but of the seven votes needed to move to postponement, explained the sources, only six

were cast in favour. A yes vote for postponement by Egypt would have tipped the balance for Jordan, added the sources.

According to the sources, the committee which reported to the closed meeting expressed apprehensions and reservations about moving the headquarters out of Jordan.

The move, sources said, is expected to take place in two years.

Earlier, participants to the ESCWA ministerial session discussed the restructuring and revitalisation of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, revision of the medium term plan for the

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# Segregation does not apply to hotels, touristic areas

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A draft law on youth welfare, which requires the segregation of sexes at "sports centres, including swimming pools," does not apply to hotels, public beaches or clubs, lawmakers asserted Monday.

Deputies said the draft law, which was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament Saturday, only applies to commercial "sports training centres" and was meant to regulate this mushrooming industry which includes body building and martial arts training centres.

Former Minister of Youth, deputy Saleh Irshaidat told the Jordan Times Monday that the draft legislation will not "change anything on the ground since sports training centres were built with the knowledge that they will be segregated."

"The youth welfare law has nothing to do with sports activities at clubs, hotels and touristic sites because the Ministry of Youth has no jurisdiction over these places," Dr. Irshaidat said. They are governed by separate laws and regulations, he said.

Islamic Action Front (IAF)

Deputy Abdul Rahim Al Ekour agreed with Dr. Irshaidat, saying the Islamists were only concerned with having training sports centres including swimming pools segregated. "People who coach swimming should be of the same sex but we are not concerned with swimming pools at hotels and touristic areas," Dr. Ekour said. "We are aware of coeducation at universities and we are not trying to stop that or to segregate sexes at touristic sites," said Dr. Ekour. Echoing Dr. Irshaidat and Dr. Ekour, deputy Abdullah Al Ensour, confirmed that it

is not within the jurisdiction of the ministry of youth to decide how hotels and touristic sites operate.

The House Sunday voted down an amendment by the Upper House of Parliament (the Senate) to delete the clause requiring the segregation of sexes at sports training centres.

Thirty-seven out of 64 deputies present at a session of the House Saturday voted in favour of maintaining the clause, which was introduced to the draft law by the Muslim Brotherhood bloc at the 11th Parliament in 1992. Deputies said the Senate

amendment was defeated because many of the "liberal deputies" who would have supported it were absent from the session. But they expected the clause to be dropped when the two Houses meet in a joint session no later than two weeks to settle the issue.

The two Houses convene in a joint session when the Lower House turns down amendments by the Senate and the Upper House insists on its decision. Resolutions are taken by a two-third majority of the two Houses and it "should not be difficult to obtain this majority," 10 lawmakers said.

# PLO vows to keep Jerusalem institutions open

## Hawks desert police training camp in protest

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) put Israel on notice Monday that it would regard any attempt to close PLO institutions in Jerusalem as a violation of their peace accord. "We will not accept any change in the status quo," said Faisal Al Hussein, the senior PLO official in the occupied territories. He vowed that Orient House, the Palestinian headquarters in Arab East Jerusalem, would remain open.

PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo, speaking at the organisation's Tunis headquarters, echoed Mr. Hussein's concern. "Any attempt on institutions in Jerusalem would be a dangerous measure, threatening to kill the Palestinian-Israeli deal," he said.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said earlier Israel would prevent the PLO from using Jerusalem as a base for running the self-rule areas of Gaza and Jericho.

Asked at a news conference how the PLO would regard Israeli closure of Orient House, Mr. Hussein said: "This would be a violation of the (peace) agreement."

Israel insists all of Jerusalem, including the Eastern half of the city captured by

Israel in 1967, is the Jewish state's eternal capital.

Palestinians see the city as the capital of a future state. "We believe it will be the capital of the Palestinian state, but at the same time we are talking about a free open city," Mr. Hussein said.

Under the September peace deal, the issue of Jerusalem will be raised only when talks start on a permanent peace settlement.

Mr. Hussein acknowledged the Palestinians had received no official word from Israel that it was contemplating any closure of PLO facilities in Jerusalem, but he said he wanted to respond to local media reports of a possible shutdown.

"We did not open this subject with the Israeli authorities because we didn't hear anything direct from them," he said.

Mr. Hussein said he believed Israel was trying to open "a new fight" against Palestinian institutions with the aim of distracting world opinion from the closure of Jerusalem to Arab residents of the self-rule areas and the occupied territories.

The city has been sealed off from the West Bank and Gaza Strip for more than a year, after a rash of Palestinian guerrilla attacks against Israelis.

Officials said Monday that Palestinian officials will look for over \$300 million of immediate aid from donors next week to jump-start self-rule in Gaza and Jericho.

The Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR) denied Israeli suggestions the newly established authority might have to borrow from Israel to pay civil servants' salaries next month. It said it had at least \$19 million already at its disposal.

"At the centre of meeting (with donors) will be the budget. We sent a draft to Tunis and they have worked out the details," Hassan Abu Libdeh, deputy managing director PECDAR, told Reuters.

"We cannot have this meeting like the previous meetings when people put up their hands and say we will give this much. We need full commitment now," said another senior PECDAR official.

"We are looking for at least \$300 million from the meeting," he added.

Meanwhile, a senior Palestinian official said that the Palestinian Authority has money to pay the June salaries of 7,000 civil servants it has inherited from the former Israeli administration of the Gaza Strip.

The statement came after Mr. Rabin warned Sunday that Israel would no longer pay the 25,000 Palestinians who worked for the Israelis in Gaza.

"Israel has already paid the May wages of the 7,000 Palestinians who were employed by the military administration," said Khader Al Khadra, the authority's legal adviser for civilian affairs.

"We have the money to pay them in June and we hope that (PLO Chairman) Yasser Arafat will come with a budget to cover the rest of the year."

"But the salaries are not the problem, the problem is to rebuild the economy of the Gaza Strip which has been destroyed during 27 years of occupation."

"And to do that we hope that the countries which have committed themselves to helping us, will do so quickly."

Mr. Khadra said the 18,000 Palestinians taken on as labourers by the Israelis since March 1993 in a bid to alleviate mass unemployment had been laid off at the end of April.

Palestinian leaders in Gaza have warned that the situation is so bad in the Strip that people could starve to death. They put the unemployment rate in Gaza as high as 60 per cent.

A spokesman for the Israeli administration said the Palesti-

nians' wages had always been paid from taxes levied on the Palestinian population, but that Israel had stopped taxing the Gaza Strip and Jericho since they became autonomous at the start of this month.

Police Minister Moshe Shalal added his own warning. "The Palestinian problem in Gaza is also our problem," he said. "We cannot just stand by and I am sure we will find an answer."

In an interview Sunday with BBC World Service radio, Mr. Rabin said: "The real problem is that the Palestinian police have not been paid."

"I don't see where the money will come from to sustain the 7,000 employees, most of whom are teachers, doctors, other public services. And I am worried."

"The money has to come from donors who are committed to paying \$2.4 billion in five years."

"But I am aware that the machinery has been created between the donors and the PLO on how the money will be channelled and accounted for," the prime minister said.

In Gaza, PLO guerrillas who joined the new police force stormed out of their training camp on Monday demanding guns to protect themselves,

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# Sudan's civil war enters 12th year

CAIRO (AP) — Africa's deadliest civil war is stumbling into its 12th year, with no end in sight.

Most of more than 1.5 million who have perished in Sudan have died of starvation in a nation that once had the potential of being the continent's breadbasket.

Relief groups warn that at least another 500,000 — probably more — are in imminent danger of dying in southern Sudan, the battlefield between government troops and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Doctors Without Borders says famine will strike unless food aid reaches southern Sudan in the next two or three weeks, when the rainy season starts in earnest.

The United Nations says two million of Sudan's 26 million people need food or farming tools. Amnesty International says three million are malnourished in one of northeast Africa's most fertile regions.

Relief groups are calling for \$5 million in international aid to deliver food aid stuck in warehouses in Kenya because of a lack of cargo planes and impassable roads into the Horn of Africa nation.

Already, the number of dead and dying eclipse any other African crisis of recent decades.

Both sides have used food as a weapon in Sudan's sordid war. Amnesty International, and other human rights group accuse both sides of massacres, mass expulsions and setting whole villages afire.

The war started in May 1983, when U.S.-trained Col. John Garang led a mutiny at the army garrison at Bor, his southern Sudan hometown, and rekindled fighting between the north and the south.

Eleven years later, there's no end in sight, despite efforts by African leaders and the United States. Washington's latest move was to appoint an emissary to work with Kenya and Sudan's other east African neighbours to negotiate a ceasefire and eventually full peace.

But with a militantly fundamentalist Muslim government in Khartoum growing increasingly anti-Western over the last five years, there's little prospect of real peace.

Seven rounds of peace talks between the government and the Christian and animist rebels have failed, and international attention is diverted to Bosnia, Rwanda and elsewhere.

The last negotiations, in mid-May in Nairobi, Kenya, ended with nothing more than a non-binding declaration of principles.

The stakes are high. A negotiated peace would likely include significant autonomy for the south under Col. Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army or a splinter group.

A government victory on the battlefield — where it has made major gains in recent months — would put a regime accused by the West of exporting Islamic fanaticism on the doorstep of largely non-Muslim central Africa.

"Is there anyone willing to see the SPLA defeated?" asked Peter Woodward, a Sudan expert at England's Reading University.

In recent months, Sudan has accused the United States, other Western countries and Israel of arming the rebels, who lost their last supplier in 1991 with the fall of the Marxist regime in neighbouring Ethiopia.

Everybody denies it, but Sudan-watchers say there's at least something to the concept of Western support.

In March, an Israeli cargo plane loaded with 23 tonnes of arms was reported to have landed at Uganda's Entebbe Airport. Sudan said the weapons made their way into the Sudanese bush for the rebels.

Reading University's Woodward said he would add some Arab regimes to Sudanese leader Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan Al-Bashir's list of alleged rebel supporters.

"I don't think they particularly want to see Sudan split," he said. "They would settle for confederation. What they really don't want to see is victory for the National Islamic Front," the ideological guide of Gen. Bashir's government.

In April, the rebels declared a breakaway state, "New Sudan." It was the first time since the war started that Col. Garang had spelled out his goal was the division of Sudan, the largest country in Africa.

It's still unclear how serious he is, and the Sudanese government says it's just a negotiating ploy.

Meanwhile, so many people have fled to Juba to escape Sudan's civil war that they're growing food in the cemeteries where war victims are buried. In peacetime, Juba was a pleasant, prosperous town.

population 100,000. Five times that many live here now, mostly refugees scrambling for food to stay alive.

Henry Muni, a former laboratory technician, trekked to the southern town in 1989 with his wife, four children and 3,000 others from Terkeka, a village 45 miles (70 kms) to the north which had fallen to the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army.

Mr. Muni's family got the security they sought in Juba, 735 miles (1,180 kms) south of the capital, Khartoum, but like half the six million people in southern Sudan, they're suffering from an acute food shortage.

What Mr. Muni wants is peace so he can take his family home and grow their own food.

"I don't want to see my children grow up in this atmosphere of civil war," Mr. Muni said. "Poor education. Poor services. Poor nutrition."

Many of the refugees fleeing more than 11 years of fighting between the rebels and government troops live in mud-walled houses, covered by green canvas left behind by relief agencies long ago. The houses are everywhere, nestled among government buildings, functionaries' houses, mosques and churches built in happier times.

Mr. Muni was given land and seeds through a government programme to help the displaced grow their food, but he says he needs at least four acres (1.6 hectares).

Paulino Lako Kidiya, Juba's state agriculture minister, says there just isn't enough land to go around. Already he's had to allocate cemetery plots for farming.

Although the government claims the 60 miles (100 kms) around Juba are secure, only expensive air transport can supply its markets because rebels still control much of the countryside.

The market has mangos, pawpaws, pineapples, and bananas, but for a price.

A sack of sorghum, the national staple, can cost 25,000 Sudanese pounds (\$71 at the official rate), almost double a month's salary for a member of Sudan's parliament. In central Sudan, north of the war zone, that same sack sells for 5,000 pounds (\$14) or less.

"Peace for me is like blood to the heart," Mr. Muni said. "Without peace, we are done with."



RUSSIAN ENVOY IN JERICHO: Dr. Victor Pessouvalour (centre), envoy of Russia's President Boris Yeltsin, is escorted by Gen. Haj Ismail head of the Palestinian police in Jericho. Pessouvalour visited the autonomous area of Jericho to discuss the development of the peace process (AFP photo)

## 'Israeli airman may have been killed'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli airman Ron Arad may have been killed by his captors or died in captivity, a former chief of the Lebanese Muslim fundamentalist group Hizbollah was quoted Monday as saying.

"I don't think anyone gains from hiding him (Arad), therefore the probability strengthens that he either died or was killed," Sheikh Sobhi Al Tofeili told Beirut's Ad Diyar daily newspaper.

"Some people say that he is with the Syrians but they not only denied it, they also searched for him. Therefore it is probable that Arad was killed or died," added Mr. Tofeili.

"The man disappeared almost at the time of the (Israeli) attack on Maydoun and there may have been a reaction from some guards to kill him in an hour of anger," Mr. Tofeili said.

Maydoun is a village in the Bekaa Valley where an Israeli attack killed about 40 people in 1988. Arad was captured after his plane was downed over South Lebanon in 1986.

Tofeili was secretary-general of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) between 1988 and 1990. He fell out with the group's leadership in 1992 and has since been on the sidelines.

Israeli commandos last week kidnapped Muslim militant leader Mustafa Al Dirani, whose men captured Arad but later handed him to an unknown group.

Hizbollah has denied holding Arad or having any information on him. Its present leader, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, said Dr. Dirani's abduction would not solve the riddle.

## Rabin concerned over lack of funds for autonomy

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Palestinian self-rule areas of Gaza and Jericho will face a financial crisis when Israel stops paying salaries there on June 1, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview broadcast Sunday.

Doctors and teachers are among those who might not be paid, he said, saying he feared disturbances could break out if public services collapsed and people went hungry.

"I don't see where from the money will come to sustain the 7,000 employees of the (former Israeli) civil administration," Mr. Rabin told BBC World Service Television.

He said the Palestine Liberation Organisation must understand that "no democracy in the world" would funnel funds to the autonomous areas unless the machinery was in place to ensure donations reached their proper destinations.

Ahmad Tibi, a senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, told Reuters the cash situation was serious.

"If donor countries do not start paying what they pledged, Palestinian institutions in Gaza and Jericho will collapse very soon, within days," Mr. Tibi said.

A World Bank report said the international community had pledged \$720 million to support the first year of self-rule in the two areas, which gained autonomy two weeks ago under the Israel-PLO peace accord.

Mr. Rabin said the real problem was in the leadership of the PLO which he said had never been in a position of responsibility where it had to address the complaints of a community.

"They don't know the meaning of responsibility to find jobs, to find food, to find housing, to solve problems in education," he said. "And secondly, they have no experience of having a budget."

In Tunis, a Palestinian official said the new Palestinian National Authority (PNA) would "start work on the ground" this week when some of its members returned to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip after its first meeting in Tunis.

Samir Ghosheh, the PNA minister of labour, told Reuters: "Some PNA members: returning today (Sunday) to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to start their new jobs. Those exiled will go later but have to start planning new structures and preparing budgets."

Mr. Rabin said Sunday that the gap between Israel and Syria in the search for a peace settlement was still "wide and deep."

"The time has arrived for the Syrians to talk directly to us, out of the limelight of the media, in a way really to get to the essence of the problems. There is no sign so far they want to go that way," he said.

"So far the gap between the Syrian position and approach to us is wide and deep," Mr. Rabin said in the interview.

"If the Syrians believe the United States will deliver Israel, they don't understand the reality of relations between us and Washington," he said, referring to the U.S. role as chief sponsor of the Middle East peace process.

He added that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was expected back in the region around June 12 for another peace mission.

The two countries have failed to make progress, with Syria insisting first on a total Israeli withdrawal from the annexed Golan Heights and Israel demanding an initial Syrian pledge for full peace.

## Israelis uncertain about post-occupation future

By Marjorie Olster  
Reuters

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM** — Though their troops have pulled out of Jericho and most of Gaza, Israelis are neither dancing nor demonstrating in the streets.

The Israeli handover to Palestinians made history. But after 27 years of occupation, Israelis uncertain about their future greeted it with resounding silence.

"This is what you sense in society — no joy at all, profound uncertainty about the future," Jewish philosopher David Hartman told Reuters in an interview.

"Are we dealing with an enemy who can become a friend? Or are we dealing with someone just playing games?" This, he said, is what Israelis are wondering.

Israelis heave a collective sigh of relief watching their young soldiers leave perilous Gaza refugee camps. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin speaks of shifting priorities. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres forecasts a new and improved Middle East.

But unease and nagging doubts remain over whether the withdrawal will lay a foundation for true peace.

The May 4 agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) gave Palestinians their first measure of independence since 1967 — self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank enclave of Jericho.

For Israelis the barometer of the deal's success is their security.

Political analysts forecast that persistent violence will prompt a strong Israeli back-

lash against Palestinian self-rule and against extending it to other parts of the West Bank.

Israelis remain deeply suspicious of their new partners in peace — the PLO and its Chairman Yasser Arafat. Israeli leaders have invested little effort in preparing public opinion for a new reality.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

The killing of two Israeli soldiers after the pullout by Palestinians opposed to the peace deal hardened Israeli scepticism. So did Mr. Arafat's May 10 speech calling for a "jihad" (holy war or struggle) over Jerusalem.

"Here's the ambivalence: Have these people changed?"

Have these people gone through a metamorphosis in which they've realised that Israel is not just... an episode that will pass away," Mr. Hartman said.

Despite uneasiness about the future, supporters of the peace accord express relief at the first concrete step to end Israeli rule over rebellious Palestinians.

Mr. Peres said Israel was correcting a "tremendous mistake" by leaving Gaza.

Even the tough-talking Rabin acknowledged in a moment of reflection that Israel's army had become "an army of occupation."

Over the course of the occupation, Israeli euphoria over the 1967 six-day war victory melted away amid world condemnation of Israeli military rule over nearly two million Palestinians.

"The majority of Israelis are not interested in occupation, are not interested in conquering another people. There are no hero stories, no heroes came out of that," Mr. Hartman said.

In 1968 the radical Israeli philosopher Yeshayahu Leibowitz predicted prolonged Israeli rule over the Palestinians would "bring about a catastrophe for the Jewish people as a whole."

"The administration would have to suppress Arab insurgency on the one hand and acquire Arab quislings on the other."

Twenty years later, the Palestinian intifada against Israel erupted in Gaza and spread to the West Bank.

"The intifada brought home the ugly price of this celebration of grandiosity," Mr. Hartman said.

The revolt tured the strongest army in the Middle East into a police force shooting at crowds of Palestinian children who rained stones on them.

American-born Israeli psychologist Charlie Greenberg, who has studied the effects of the intifada, said mounting Israeli casualties ultimately pushed the government to withdraw.

"(It was) get out of Gaza because our soldiers are being killed not because of what we are doing to the Palestinians. However a great amount of discomfort and moral conflict does lead to political change," Mr. Greenberg said.

"Israelis want to be moral, good people. What we have to do is to take him (the Israeli) out of the situation which for 26 years he could not handle in any moral or effective way."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### U.K. says Iran must behave well

LONDON (R) — Iran must be seen to follow international law and not to back guerrilla movements in other states, Britain's Junior Foreign Minister Douglas Hogg was quoted as saying Monday. "It is very important that the Iranians adhere to the normal rules that govern the relations of one state to another, such as the rights and territorial integrity of neighbouring Gulf countries," Mr. Hogg was quoted as saying. "It is certain that any evidence... of support by Iran for terrorism would be extremely disturbing." Mr. Hogg, who summed up Iran's charge d'affaires in London Gholamreza Ansari last month to protest about reported covert contacts between Iran and Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas. Mr. Hogg, a British minister of state who is responsible for the Middle East, was due to begin a tour of Iran's Gulf Arab neighbours Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait Monday. Iran is currently enmeshed in a dispute with the United Arab Emirates over three small islands in the Gulf, over which both states claim sovereignty. British officials have declined to comment on a report in the Guardian newspaper last week that the British government secretly expelled an Iranian diplomat. Relations between Britain and Iran hit a low over a ruling by the late Ayatollah Khomeini that British author Salman Rushdie should be killed for blaspheming Islam in his novel The Satanic Verses. Iran broke off ties over the issue in 1989, and relations resumed at charge d'affaires level in 1990. "We are concerned to establish good relations with Iran as an important Gulf country and an important market," Al Quds Al Arabi quoted Mr. Hogg as saying.

### Peres starts visit to Colombia

BOGOTA (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres arrived in Colombia for a two-day official visit to sign technical cooperation agreements and review bilateral relations, radio and local news agency reports said. Mr. Peres, who arrived in Bogota on the day Colombians were electing a new president, was met at the airport by his Colombian counterpart Neomi Sanin. Caracol Radio reported. Asked about Middle East peace, Mr. Peres said he believed it could only be achieved through deeds, not words or declarations, the Colprensa News Agency said. During his stay, Mr. Peres will receive an honorary doctorate from Bogota's Javeriana University and meet Colombia's Jewish community.

### Iran police seize 4,800 liters of alcohol

TEHRAN (AFP) — Police seized 4,800 liters of alcohol east of here and arrested a Muslim and a Christian-Armenian, newspapers said here Monday. The two suspects were manufacturing alcoholic beverages on a "large scale" in a residential property near the capital, the papers said. Iran has strictly imposed a ban on alcohol since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, although locally-produced and imported alcoholic drinks are widely available on the black market.

### 2 UAE emirates agree mutual border

DUBAI (R) — Two small members of the United Arab Emirates have agreed the demarcation of a border between them, local newspapers reported Monday. The emirates of Umm Al Qaiwain and Ras Al Khaimah, on the northeastern tip of the Arabian peninsula, signed an agreement over the border Sunday, newspaper said. The two emirates lack the substantial hydrocarbon reserves of larger UAE members Abu Dhabi and Dubai although Ras Al Khaimah produces small amounts of oil and gas. The UAE, a federation of emirates formerly under British protection, was created in the early 1970s. The other members are Sharjah, Ajman and Fujairah.

### Algerian court sentences 13 to death

TUNIS (R) — A special court in Algiers condemned 13 fugitive Muslim fundamentalists to death, the official Algerian News Agency (APS) said. They included Abdul Kader Chabouti, Said Makhoulfi and Azzeddine Baa, who are widely believed to be leaders of the main fundamentalist guerrilla groups and were also tried in their absence and sentenced to death last year for killing nine people with a bomb at Algiers airport. Algeria's special courts were set up in 1992 as part of the government's struggle with Islamic radicals. More than 400 fundamentalists have been condemned to death in Algeria since early 1992 when the authorities cancelled a general election in which the Islamists had taken a huge lead. Twenty-six have been put to death. The Algiers special court also sentenced five militants to life terms, APS said. They included Yekhefil Charrati, 37, who was propaganda head of the now-banned Islamic Salvation Front. He was arrested in March and accused of circulating videotapes urging soldiers and policemen to desert. The daily Liberté reported that gunmen abducted and killed magistrate Moussa Eridha and his nephew Friday in Reghaia, around 25 kilometres southeast of Algiers. They kidnapped the nephew first and forced him to knock on his uncle's door. When the magistrate answered they dragged him out and killed him. The nephew died Saturday from his wounds, Liberté added.

### Women's treatment in Bosnia condemned

MARRAKESH, Morocco (AFP) — An international women's conference here condemned the treatment of women in war-torn Bosnia Sunday at its inaugural meeting attended by hundreds of women ministers, deputies and intellectuals. The meeting of women from Europe and the Mediterranean also said the international community had a duty to defend Bosnia-Herzegovina's territorial integrity. Attacking "barbarous aggression" which has wracked the former Yugoslav republic for more than two years, the conference expressed "complete solidarity" with victims of "inhuman treatment," particularly women. In a declaration the delegates welcomed the Palestinian autonomy accord signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation to cover the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

#### PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Envoy Special  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Grands Galops  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Step by Step  
21:10 Moon Over Miami  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 The Cape Rebel  
23:10 The Second Half

#### PRAYER TIMES

03:54 Fajr  
05:27 (Sunrise) Dhuhr  
12:53 Dhuhr  
16:14 Asr  
19:39 Maghrib  
21:12 Isha

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637355  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 617401  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrosan Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

### Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 626543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Epiphanius Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 652526

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 664105

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will continue their gradual drop becoming around average with winds becoming westerly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max temp. 18/29

Amman 23/36

Aqaba 16/33

Jordan Valley 20/35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 19 per cent, Aqaba 26 per cent.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

man 32, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 19 per cent, Aqaba 26 per cent.

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

##### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Nidal As'ad 751672  
Dr. Shadi Abu Zaydeh 757965  
Dr. Khalil Marjoub 835552  
Dr. Mohammad Nahawi 819213  
Firas pharmacy 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy 778336  
Al Avenia pharmacy 637055  
Nairook pharmacy 626762  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Simciani pharmacy 637660  
Nairook pharmacy 623672  
Najih pharmacy 847632

IRBID:  
Dr. Mohammad Al Hilo 279773  
Alquds pharmacy (—)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Ziyad Jaiten (—)

Khalich pharmacy 985417

#### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Rescue 630541  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192-621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade 891228  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 896390  
Public Security Department 63021  
Hotel Complaints 818980  
Free Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage 897467  
Complaints 897467  
Amman Municipality 787111  
Central Amman Telephone (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 010290  
Repairs 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 812615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-523100

Queen Alia Airport 06-523100

#### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/332  
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn 642816  
Al-Khaleel Maternity, J. Amn 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity 623662  
Malhas, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shmehani 6641714  
Shmehani Hospital 669121  
University Hospital 845945  
Al-Muasher Hospital 6672779  
The Islamic, Abdali 6641646  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 7771013  
Italian, Al-Muhajra 7771013  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126  
Army, Marka 89161115  
Queen Alia Hospital 680100  
Amal Hospital 674155

Green Catholic Hospital 02127275

Ibn Al Nafes Hospital 021247100

AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital 031314111

#### FOR THE TRAVELLER

##### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. 08933205, where it should always be verified.

##### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
04:10 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
06:00 Jeddah (RJ)  
06:45 Damascus (RJ)  
08:00 Dhahran (RJ)  
08:45 Jeddah (RJ)  
09:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:25 Aqaba (RJ)  
10:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
17:35 London (RJ)

### HUJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday

Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Amman 7:30 a.m. every Sunday





Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday speaks to reporters about the June 7 meeting to discuss participation in the 1995 International Conference on Women to be held in Beijing (Petra photo)

## Meeting to discuss participation at world conference on women

AMMAN (J.T.) — A national conference will convene June 7 to discuss Jordan's participation at the international women's conference scheduled for September 1995 in Beijing. Her Royal Highness Princess Basma announced Monday.

"The conference shall group the largest number of men and women involved" in order to cover all the issues that will come up in Beijing's gathering, the Princess said.

She said an executive office had been formed to act as a coordination link between the various bodies, official and non-official, that will participate in the 1995 gathering.

Princess Basma, who is going to head Jordan's delegation to Beijing, said that Shadia Nusseir, of the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development, will head the executive office.

Ms. Nusseir said her office will, in addition to coordinating the work of all governmental departments and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), seek to raise funding for the preparation for and participation at Beijing.

"The office will also furnish a media committee, formed yesterday by representatives of major media bodies in the country, with information."

According to Salwa Nasser, a member of the executive office, the June 7 meeting will discuss several papers that would form the basis for Jordan's national participation to be presented at the Beijing conference.

These would include women's rights, women and Islam, women in the rural areas and the role of institutions in bolstering the role of women in society.

About 500 delegates from all parts of the country will participate in the June 7 meeting that will be held at Queen Zein Al Sharaf Complex.

Another two conferences on the regional level will be held in November, Ms. Nusseir said. One will be for the countries of the region in coordination with the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the second for NGOs.

The international conference on women, which was held for the first time in Mexico in 1975, then in Copenhagen in 1980 and Nairobi in 1985, is being held under the theme "Development-Peace-Equality."

## Interior minister to visit Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Interior Minister Salameh Hamad Monday announced that he would be leaving for Baghdad today, accepting an invitation from his Iraqi counterpart, Wataban Ibrahim Al Hassan.

Mr. Hamad said they would discuss Jordanian-Iraqi relations and several questions of common concern to Iraq and Jordan.

The minister will head a Jordanian delegation grouping representatives of his own ministry and the Public Security Department (PSD).

According to Mr. Hamad, the Ministry of Interior has prepared studies and conducted research on the application of the government-sponsored decentralisation system in Jordan.

"We have enlisted the assistance of specialists in this area, and we are approaching the United Nations to help us in a field study in one of the Kingdom's governorates, to serve as a nucleus for the application of the system later in the other governorates," said Mr. Hamad in a lecture he delivered at the Royal War College.

In his lecture, entitled "Jordan's Domestic Policies," Mr. Hamad reviewed the ministry's arrangements to begin the decentralisation process, stressing that the system would make each governorate financially and administratively independent from the central authority in Amman.



Ben Ashman and Judy Leden Monday are escorted to the Marka Airport terminal by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd and Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan after landing their microlights in Amman (photo by Rana Hussein)

## Microlight team lands at Marka for cancer research campaign

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The British microlight team of Ben Ashman and Judy Leden, accompanied by a two-man crew, Monday touched down gracefully at Marka Airport, completing a two-week mission for their friend Yasmin Saudi who died of cancer in February.

"Last year we came with Yasmin to visit Jordan, and she organised this trip because it was something she wished to do. But sadly she died before accomplishing the trip, and we finished it for her," Mr. Ashman told reporters shortly after landing.

Yasmin's wish was to raise money for cancer research by flying, and to document the flight on film, said her flight colleagues. So their mission was named "Flight for Life."

The microlight crew arrived to a joyous and tearful welcome by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Bin Zeid, who deputised for His Majesty King Hussein, Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan, and a crowd of about 100, including Yasmin's parents, members of the Royal Jordanian Gliding Club and students from the Ahliva School for Girls.

"I wish to congratulate the world champions on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein for successfully finishing their humanitarian effort to carry the soul of Yasmin to Jordan," Prince Ra'd said addressing the pilots and reporters.

Ms. Leden, who could not hold back her tears when she met Yasmin's parents, told the Jordan Times that this was a very emotional moment in her life.

"This is what we do best — fly — and we have done the best thing in our lives — fly for her (Yasmin)," said the 35-year-old hang glider champion.

Ms. Leden added that this was the first time the duo had travelled such a long distance.

The flying volunteers crossed through nine countries on their journey to Jordan.

"We had good weather, and bad weather, but at the end of the trip it was a wonderful sight to be in Jordan again," said Ms. Leden.

"Flight for Life" is intended to raise money for the Cancer Research Campaign. The group will spend 10 days in Jordan on a programme that includes a visit to the Royal Jordanian Gliding Club (RJGC), an airshow and open day for public flying at RJGC, a visit to Al Amal Cancer Centre, flights over Petra, Wadi Rum, Ajloun, Jerash and Amman and school visits.

## Lebanon, Jordan and Syria should coordinate better on peace — Bouez

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Syrian-Lebanese-Jordanian special relationship is characterised by its united stand towards the peace process, said Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez, but better coordination is necessary, he added.

Speaking to journalists Monday at the Forte Grand Hotel, Mr. Bouez said that he met with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Monday to discuss Lebanese-Jordanian economic relations as well as the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"Jordan and Lebanon have good relations (but) they (the relations) need to be technically organised," said the minister, adding that the Jordanian government proved a high level of credibility in dealing with the peace process.

But Mr. Bouez said, parties involved in the peace process should have better coordination. "No party should move so fast without waiting for others," said the visiting minister.

Mr. Bouez is participating

in the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) 17th ministerial session which opened in the capital on Sunday.

Mr. Bouez expressed disappointment in what he saw as the Israeli unwillingness to show commitment towards a just and lasting peace in the region, pointing as evidence to the recent Israeli warplane attacks in Southern Lebanon following the abduction of a Shiite Muslim leader last week.

News reports said that about 40 Israeli commandos flew two helicopters deep behind Syrian and Lebanese army lines to snatch guerrilla chief Mustafa Dirani from his home in the village of Qsarnabi.

Saying that such violations of the security of Lebanon were unacceptable, Mr. Bouez added that the Lebanese government has urged the U.N. Security Council to stop these violations in Lebanon.

"Lebanon refuses to submit to Israel," said Mr. Bouez, adding that despite the sensitive Lebanese-Israeli situation, Beirut has been careful to isolate peace talks from internal conflicts.

Asked about the status of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, the minister said that the media has misinterpreted

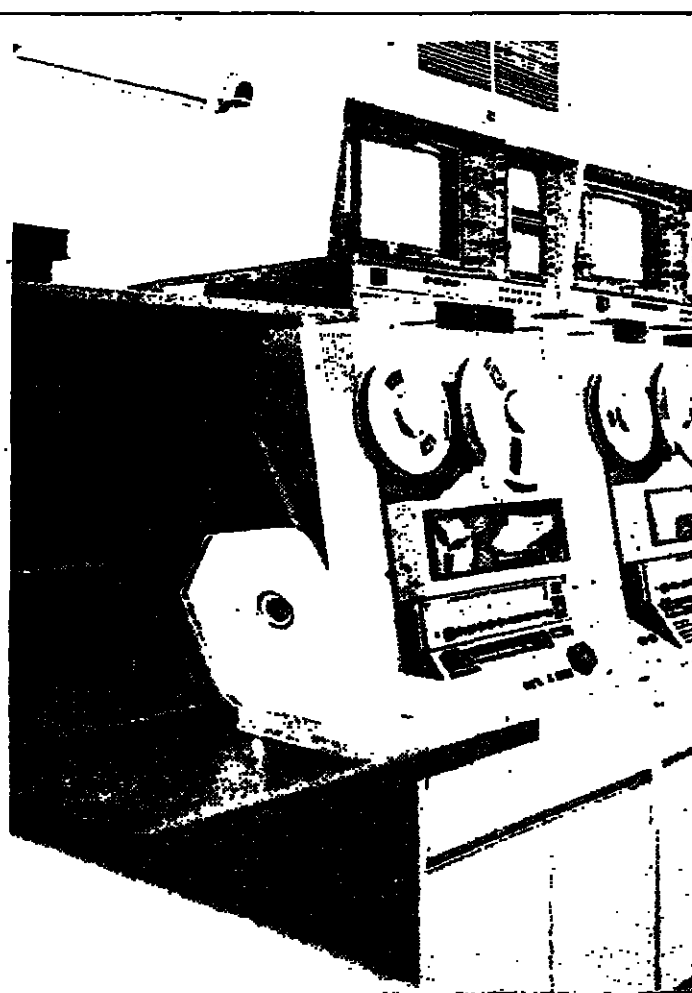


Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday receives Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez (right) in a meeting attended by Minister of State Fawaz Abu Ghanam (Petra photo)

"We are truly the most concerned party about the destiny of Palestinians, and our stand vis-a-vis Palestinians in Lebanon has not changed," he said.

### CHANNEL II CHANGES

Jordan Television Channel II has introduced changes to the timing of its programmes designed to ensure continuity of what can be described as "family programmes" in the early evenings, according to Ibrahim Shahzadeh, acting director general of Jordan Radio and Television Corporation. Mr. Shahzadeh told the Jordan Times that the change, which takes effect June 1, involves the commencement of the French programme at 5:00 instead of 7:00 p.m. The News in Hebrew will go on the air at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. In this way, said Mr. Shahzadeh, Jordan Television Channel II will secure three quarters of an hour — between 7:15 and 8:00 p.m. of non-stop family programmes that are expected to better cater to viewers' tastes (file photo)



ENHANCING RELATIONS: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday receives at the prime ministry the South Korean president's envoy, Su Jil-Park. Dr. Majali and the envoy reviewed relations between Jordan and South Korea and means of enhancing them. Mr. Park commended the Jordanian democratisation process and lauded Jordan's active participation in the Middle East peace process (Petra photo)

### Royal Decree approves 2,710 new jobs

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree Monday was issued approving the general structure of jobs in various ministries and government departments and creating another 2,710 jobs. Abdul Rahman Al Ajlouni, director of the General Budget Department, said that with the new jobs, government departments will now have between 4,000 and 5,000 vacant positions to fill. The total number of government posts now stands at 118,527. With the Ministry of Education employment roster accounting for the major share, said Mr. Ajlouni. He said that of the 2,710 new jobs, 1,000 will go to the Ministry of Education, and that the Ministry of Health will take the next largest allotment of 700 new posts.

## Jordan, Hungary sign agreement for cultural, scientific projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Iazlo Kadar, Hungary's non-resident ambassador to Jordan, and Safwan Toukan, ministry of planning secretary general, Monday signed an executive programme for a Hungarian-Jordanian cultural and scientific agreement for the 1994-1996 period.

The programme provides for the two countries to carry out cultural projects in sports, youth and social development fields as well as in higher education and education, according to Dr. Toukan.

In a statement after the signing ceremony, Dr. Toukan said the two sides pledged to encourage the exchange of educational materials, school textbooks and publications on Arabic and Islamic literature.

Hungary pledges to offer Jordanian students four scholarships to study science, medicine and engineering at Hungarian colleges, while Jordan would offer two scholarships to Hungarian students each year to study Arabic and Islamic religion, said Dr. Toukan.

Also, the two sides pledged to exchange visits by youth and sports groups as well as theatre, artistic and music troupes and discuss cooperation in social development and special education for the handicapped, Dr. Toukan added.

### ESCWA to move

(Continued from page 1)

period 1992-1997 and revision of the programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1996-1997.

During discussions on the designation of sectoral focal points of the commission's economic and social development programme, participants agreed that a general coordination plan between member states and their governments has to be structured.

"It is agreed that we need to establish bridges of communications between the concerned parties" to make possible the application of ESCWA programmes, said Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz who is heading the session.

Iraqi, Syrian, Egyptian and Qatari representatives stressed the importance of making comprehensive research studies on the exploitation of water in the region, saying that the issue of water management is one of the most vital points in the regions' economic relations.

Also on Monday's agenda was the financial status of the commission's programmes.

ESCWA Chief Administrator John Truman said the initial appropriations for ESCWA's regular budget for the biennium 1992-1993 approved by the General Assembly amounted to \$US 50,660,600. In 1993, he added, the commission estimated a saving of \$US 12,432,700 from this initial appropriation.

The savings were the result of several factors, Mr. Truman added.

They include "a freeze on recruitment, restrictions on travel of staff on official business, restrictions on the hiring of consultants, differences in post-adjustment for the professional staff between Iraq and Jordan, and differences in General Service salary scale between Iraq and Jordan."

The increasingly serious financial crisis faced by the United Nations in recent years is clearly reflected in the decreasing amounts allocated to ESCWA by the major sources

of extrabudgetary funds, Mr. Truman said. The major sources of extrabudgetary funds for the past four bienniums have been the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the government of the Netherlands and the government of France.

Yet, contribution from these sources have steadily declined. In the biennium 1992-1993, these resources amount to \$US 1,218,350.

The financial situation of the regular budget was also addressed, Mr. Truman stressed the need for member states to "pay their contributions as soon as possible," as the financial situation is only manageable until August 1994.

The work of the 17th session, which addresses economic and social development programmes for its 13 member states, will be concluded today after delegations from the representative countries adopt the report of the commission on the session.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TV5 PROGRAMME

★ A variety programme transmitted by TV5 Europe station entitled "Fant Pas Rever" at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Installation entitled "Ephemeries of a Circle" by artist Noël Favrelière at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luveibdeh at 5:00 p.m. (Tel. 643251/2).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by disabled children at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by 20 Jordanian and Iraqi artists (including Widad Orfali, Hussein Da'seh, Waddah Al Ward, Adnan Al Hilm and Mahmoud Hussein) at Orfali Art Gallery in Umm Uthaina (Tel. 826932).
- ★ Exhibition by 46 artists entitled "He, Bonjour Monsieur La Fontaine" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of water colour paintings by artist Itab Hreih and another exhibition of ceramics by Sajida Al Mashaiki at Ain Art Gallery in Wadi Saqra (Tel. 644451, 652823).
- ★ Exhibition by artist Helmi El-Toumi at Baladna Art Gallery (Tel. 687598).

### FILM

★ Syrian film in Arabic entitled "Al Tahaleh" (The Moss) at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 7:30 p.m.

### NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

★ ABC News Highlights and MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

## CORRECTION

A photo caption which appeared in yesterday's Jordan Times, reporting that Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in opening the Jordanian Cardiac Society's second conference, was incorrect. Dr. Majali in fact deputised for His Majesty King Hussein. The Jordan Times apologises for the error.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## Summer too hot for deputies

IT IS summer time, so the subject of sex-segregated swimming pools surfaced as a timely subject for the Lower House of Parliament. The occasion for debating segregation again presented itself when the Upper House sent back the draft Youth Welfare Law to the Chamber of Deputies with the article calling for separating sexes at swimming pools notably deleted. This action by the Senate and the heat of the summer must have combined to cause a flurry by the deputies who chose to defend the original text which was passed by the House.

The House's Judiciary Committee jumped into the fray on the side of segregation when it concluded that separating men from women in such public places as swimming pools that "conforms with our Islamic values and the deeply-rooted morals of our society."

Whether in fact desegregation on beaches and around swimming pools per se runs counter to the letter and spirit of Islam is something that only learned men of religion can answer. But before that, there may be a point or two that need to be mentioned. To begin with, there can be no sensible distinction between swimming in public or private pools as long as they are geared to serve the public. Secondly, there can be no acceptable differential treatment between swimming in pools or in the sea, including of course the beaches of Aqaba and the Dead Sea. If men and women swimming together in pools is taboo, then it follows that desegregated swimming in the sea must also be viewed as illegal.

Extending this criterion to its logical conclusion would necessarily mean that Jordanians and non-Jordanians must comply with this dictum because there can be no way to draw a line between nationals and foreigners practising this sport in Jordan. What this attitude would do to our tourism industry must be kept in mind.

But what is even more important than lost revenues from tourism that would naturally ensue should we go ahead and put a curtain between male and female swimmers is the social implications and consequences of any such decision. It so happens that Jordanians who travel abroad swim in desegregated pools and beaches including those who would rather have us swim separately. If girls and boys cannot share a swimming pool or a beach, then they may not appear together in a sport event when wearing shorts or trunks is absolutely necessary. Where to draw the line is not going to be easy or functional. If morality and fidelity are what occupy the minds of the people's deputies, then there must be a better way to accomplish these noble goals without resorting to gimmicks that could only undermine personal freedoms and the right to choose one's way of life in our society.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

NOW THAT the Israelis are involved in dealing with the Palestinian self-rule question in Gaza and Jericho, Washington does not seem enthusiastic about the resumption of Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, according to a columnist in Al Ra'i daily. What the United States is interested in at the moment is to persuade the Syrians to follow the example of the Palestinians and enter into secret negotiations with the Israeli leaders over the future of the Golan Heights, said Tareq Masarweh, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher had hoped to initiate a shuttle diplomacy between Syria and Israel with the hope of paving the ground for secret contacts, but he was met with a solid and obstinate stand on the part of Damascus that thwarted such an attempt, said the writer. It goes without saying that the initiating of secret talks would automatically mean the end of the Madrid concept and the start of an unorthodox approach that would lead to a separate treaty with the Zionists, added the writer. Perhaps Israel has accepted the Madrid conference as a mere tactic but, in the light of its current practices, said the writer, Israel is proving to the whole world that it still holds on to its strategy in dealing with the separate Arab parties to achieve its goals.

THERE is no question now that certain elements are fuelling the North-South Yemeni conflict through propaganda campaigns or through the supply of arms to either side, said Al Dustour daily Monday. The paper said that those muddling in the Yemeni affairs hope to achieve selfish interests for themselves and for seeing Yemen disintegrated again, said the paper. Despite this fact, the paper said, there are signs looming in the offing about possible dialogue between the warring sides that could help the Yemeni people reach the end of the dark tunnel. The Arab Nation as a whole would like to see the Yemenis retaining the numerous gains they attained by forging their unity and an end to bloodshed as soon as possible, said the paper. Therefore, the only hope for an end to the strife, it said, lies with the leaders in Sana'a and Aden who have been sending out feelers for possible dialogue to end the way.

## Civil war threatens Kurdish self-rule

By Leslie Plummer  
and  
Jonathan Ragsman

IRAQI KURDISTAN is on a hair-trigger, fearful that the next factional spark will unleash a civil war which the region's government — its authority destroyed by party rivalries after exactly two years in existence — could not stop.

Reports from northern Iraq say the fragile ceasefire between peshmerga militias is being sustained only by intensive daily negotiation.

The tension follows a sudden outbreak of fighting earlier this month, which left up to 300 people dead and profoundly shook the Kurdish area, declared a "safe haven" under allied aerial protection from Baghdad after the Gulf war.

So far is the rift from being healed between the two antagonistic government parties — Jalal Talabani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and Massoud Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) — that Mr. Talabani is refusing to return to Kurdistan from Syria.

"The experiment in (Kur-

dish) self-rule has failed," said a non-Kurdish mediator involved in the unremitting negotiations to prevent new fighting. The only hope, he added, lay in the enhanced stature of the Iraqi National Council (INC), the coalition of Kurdish, Shiite and Sunni groups opposing President Saddam Hussein's Baghdad government.

The INC is playing a crucial role in negotiations, and its mainly Shiite militiamen are acting as peacekeepers between the KDP in the west and the PUK in the east. Moderates from both sides are reported to want the INC to take a bigger role in governing the region.

While a local land squabble, apparently set off by the original fighting, the conflict springs from the failure to resolve the longstanding divide between clans associated with Mr. Talabani and Mr. Barzani.

For the past year, their parties have been clawing power back from the government they formed after the euphoric elections in May 1992. The latest conflict has left the government close to being an empty shell.

"Party interests have prevailed on both sides in this

whole sorry affair," the mediator said.

A complicating factor appears to be the possibility of a split within Mr. Talabani's PUK as shown by the role in the fighting played by the defence minister, Jabbar Farman.

Complaints about him had been growing since he led an attack last December in which more than 300 Islamic militants were killed and the headquarters of the Islamic Movement in Irbil ransacked. He is also thought to have been involved in an incident where about 60 Iraqi soldiers were killed.

"Farman had been asked by the KDP and PUK to leave the defence post because of (what happened) last year," said the mediator, who belongs to neither party and criticises excesses on both sides. "He was about to be sent on leave for three months. Then the land dispute happened, and he struck," moving in to support one side, while his forces also murdered 28 KDP supporters.

Several leading members of the PUK support the ceasefire and are apparently at odds with Mr. Farman. What

remains a mystery is whether the defence minister is a maverick or is acting with the support of Mr. Talabani.

The United States air force is reported to be ready to fly Mr. Talabani to the Iraqi border town of Zakho or the Turkish town of Silopi, but he has said his safety cannot be guaranteed in the KDP-controlled area on the Syrian and Turkish borders.

He is insisting that only an escort led by Mr. Barzani will induce him to come back, but the KDP leader believes this would make him look a suppliant.

The two places most at risk of becoming the next flash-point are the road between Irbil and the PUK stronghold of Sulaimaniyah, and the central mountain resort town of Shaqlawa.

Brown Lewis, the field director of Save the Children in northern Iraq, said the aid organisation's work around Shaqlawa had stopped completely because of the risk to local staff. "The PUK are sitting on the hills with anti-aircraft guns and the KDP are on the next range of hills beyond that," she said.

The Guardian

## LETTERS

### Condescending remarks

To the Editor:

MR. HARRIS'S letter to the editor (Jordan Times, May 29) reminded me of a most insulting comment my friends and I heard from a visiting Western tourist who happened to meet recently at Kan Zaman. She was surprised to see that we were young Arab Muslim girls and yet (contrary to her common belief and expectation) "normal human beings." She came to this conclusion simply because we looked and dressed in a way she found "normal". Had we worn a headcover, and not spoken English, perhaps, she would have left Jordan thinking otherwise.

The similarity between her comment and Mr. Harris's "impressions" is that most Westerners, visiting or temporarily living in our part of the world, are mostly intolerant of the differences between our cultures and theirs. Any sign of going against what they are used to is immediately labelled bad or wrong. In order for them to be happy while they live amidst us, we have to conform with their way of life. If we criticise that, we are accused of being fundamentalist and anti-Western. And if we disagree with their criticism, we are considered to be narrow-minded. Give us a break!

Just as no one's perfect, I believe no society is. I fully acknowledge that our society has its own shortcomings. But I do not feel that seeking refuge in the ideals and values of the West is the way to overcome them. In fact, it scares me to see how quickly, and rather superficially, we are moving towards being a semi-Western society. It scares me to think that the next generation (i.e. my children, one day) may even grow up in a milieu that would have lost all linkage to its past heritage, thanks to our conscious and sub-conscious humility to Western politics and media.

Lessons learned from the example of the sexual revolution in Europe and the US clearly demonstrate that sexual freedom may relieve the pain and frustration of individuals; but how does that compare with the larger social problems that parents and government are struggling with? I do not really think that following suit is the one and only way to solve our problems. Thank you for your advice Mr. Harris, but please spare yourself the trouble. We do not need the West to hold our hand while we walk the road towards our social and cultural progress. Just as a child learns to crawl before it walks, we have to move alone; the power should come from within us. We will change as and when we are ready — and in a way that suits us. And if our present values make you feel like an alien between us, let it be. Frankly, I do not see anything more condescending than a foreigner expecting us to change so that they should live comfortably in our country. What would you think, Mr. Harris (or the American public, for that matter), if Arab students in the U.S. start requesting that Americans should adopt Arab values so that they don't feel estranged??

Name withheld upon request

### Invasion of privacy

To the Editor:

I WAS not surprised to read David Harris's letter, (Jordan Times May 29) and agree with him on most points.

As a Canadian woman living here for seven years I have faced many forms of unnecessary harassment just because I am a female, fair haired foreigner. I can't walk on the street without being walked into, things whispered in my ear or even being followed and called. I am 31 years old a mother of two and don't feel I am attractive to the extent of this annoying attention. As much as I try to ignore it, I can't. I am not flattered and feel I have no privacy.

There is harassment in the West as well, but not to this extent. Do I have to dye my hair black and dress from head to toe just to be left alone? I don't think I should have to alter my life-style to have some privacy in my life and I think it is so unfair that I can't just live here without being hounded by sexually obsessed men.

Unfortunately, I don't think things will change for me but I hope society changes with the new generations as I don't want my daughter to face the same harassment just because she looks like me.

Name withheld upon request

### Cultures differ

To the Editor:

I WOULD like to comment on the letter by David Harris (Jordan Times, May 29) letter. It would appear to any local or foreign person, whether in Jordan or abroad, that the views of Mr. Harris are valid on large scale. Although his views are constructive and helpful, where can we draw the line between a conservative society embarking on a pragmatic and careful change and a demand for quick and drastic one. We in Jordan are careful and cautious. Change is essential but we must take into consideration many factors which affect the lives of the citizens of this country.

One wonders if those who come to Jordan are fascinated by the mystic of the Middle East, to visit the historic sites or to study the culture of this country in all its aspects. Most Westerners are fascinated by the East, the desert, the castles. Certainly we in this country are proud of this reputation. The views of Mr. Harris touch on subjects which are different. His presence in Jordan, at the University of Jordan, I assume, is to understand and study the way Jordanians think and behave. The experiences he mentioned do not reflect the attitude of this society. It would have been helpful if Mr. Harris had read and made research about Jordan before coming to this country, instead of being disappointed by certain values or attitudes which are normal to us but strange to him.

Cultures differ. For example, holding hands between friends in Jordan is regarded as a sign of friendship while in other culture it is regarded as indecent. No one can impose restrictions on other people's culture. The trend of a society directs the attitude and the way people feel and behave. Imposing values and behaviour on a society not ready for a sudden change would have negative repercussions.

The experiences of Mr. Harris, compared to other cultures, are not that dangerous. In other cultures he would have been attacked. The people here are hospitable. Foreigners are always welcome but it would be better to observe and study the culture they came to see. Certainly, it is annoying to interfere in other people's problems and business. One can appreciate the dilemma of Mr. Harris but it would be wise for him and other visitors to avoid being angry if some Jordanians tried to initiate a discussion with them, and I can assure him and others who visit this country that it is better to know and understand the habits of our people rather than judge them against their experience.

No culture is void from certain negative aspects. Hopefully, time would remedy such symptoms.

It is the duty of the "Ministry of Tourism to issue brochures not only about the historical sites in Jordan but also about our customs, traditions and way of life. So when guests arrive to this country they will not be disappointed about certain aspects of our culture which we take for granted and they see as disappointing.

Ret. Col. Nasser Mirza,  
Amman.

## New challenges ahead for S. Africa

By Ian Mackenzie  
Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's membership in the South African Development Community (SADC) will bring problems as well as benefits for 10 nations that originally founded the group to break economic dependence on Pretoria.

South Africa is expected to join SADC at the group's annual summit in the Tanzanian town of Arusha in late August.

"There will be challenges and problems, but in the end we think the benefits should outweigh the problems," said SADC spokesman Kgosiwe Moosi.

"For one thing, it will mean now that the whole region is on the road to integration, in the past, it has been moving at half speed because all the countries were not there," he told Reuters from SADC headquarters in the Botswana capital Gaborone.

SADC was originally formed as the Southern African Development Coordina-

tion Committee (SADCC) in 1980 by nine "front line" states — Namibia joined on independence in 1990 — to lessen economic dependence on apartheid South Africa.

The other SADC members are Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Angola, Malawi and Tanzania, most of which were victims of Pretoria's destabilisation policies over the years.

They succeeded in their objective of fostering sanctions that eventually helped bring black majority rule to South Africa. But they basically failed to loosen economic ties with the continent's southern powerhouse.

There has been considerable debate within the group, which changed to a more formal structure renamed SADC in 1992, over South Africa's membership.

Fears have been expressed of being swamped by the economy of a country that has a gross domestic product more than three times that of the other 10 countries.

"If we are not careful, South Africa will continue to

dominate the region, but you must also bear in mind that with the SADC approach to integration, the interests of the weaker countries will be taken care of," Mr. Moosi said.

Regional officials said Western donors preferred to provide aid for infrastructure development on a region-wide basis, rather than to individual countries. Donors have also indicated a democratic South Africa should be a part of the region.

There are still a number of unanswered questions, including South Africa's relations with the 21-nation Preferential Trade Area of Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) — SADC's main economic rival but to which most SADC countries also belong.

Some analysts question whether South Africa should not in fact be joining the Lusaka-based PTA rather than SADC.

"South Africa joining SADC is not to their advantage in any way if they want a market all the way up to Cairo, unless South Africa finds it easier to impose itself

and dictate its terms to other members of SADC," a Lusaka-based African diplomat said.

South African Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel said it was unacceptable to have an "island of prosperity" south of the Limpopo River and there was a need to stimulate economies throughout the region.

Regional analysts said President Nelson Mandela's African National Congress felt a debt of gratitude to neighbouring black states that had helped the movement during its struggle against apartheid.

But they also noted it was against Pretoria's own interests to have a poor region in which a relatively prosperous South Africa could be swamped by a massive influx of unemployed from neighbouring states.

Mr. Manuel indicated South Africa foresaw some restructuring in the region, with a possible hint on relations with the PTA, when he spoke of "a plethora of organisations across southern Africa."

By Eszter Szamado  
Agence France Presse

BUDAPEST — Sunday's convincing election victory by the reformed Communist party may be seen by international analysts as a retreat from market-oriented reform, but Hungarians regard it as the light at the end of the tunnel.

What Westerners might interpret as Hungary following Poland in a nostalgic lurch to the left, Hungarians see as a hope of professional government after four years of non-Communist but incompetent rule.

The Hungarian Socialist Party (MSZP) won 208 of the 386 seats in the new parliament, with 54.15 per cent of the vote in Sunday's run-off round in the country's second free elections since the collapse of pro-Soviet rule in 1989.

High turnouts in both electoral rounds this year — 69 per cent in the first round and 55 per cent in the second against 63 per cent and 45.5 per cent respectively in 1990

## Hungary goes left — for hope

— indicated that people were longing for a change, MSZP leader Gyula Horn said.

Mr. Horn, who is tipped to be the next prime minister, was foreign minister in the last pro-Soviet cabinet before the country opted for market-oriented democracy.

Even though the MSZP was formed out of the reform Communists of the former pro-Soviet state party, for Hungarians the socialist victory does not signal a return of former Communist bureaucrats.

They feel that MSZP is a different party made up of different people.

For the socialists pledged expertise and, despite their absolute majority in parliament, promised to form the widest possible coalition based on a broad national

consensus, opening the way for liberal parties to join in government.

The "most natural coalition partner" according to Mr. Horn would be the runner-up liberal Alliance of Free Democrats (SZDSZ), which won 70 seats.

But after the socialists emerged the winners, the SZDSZ said it now felt free to choose whether it wanted to join MSZP or let it tackle mounting economic difficulties alone. If mishandled, these could drive the country into insolvency by the end of 1995, according to MSZP experts.

"Coalition is a must if no party gains an absolute majority. But if there is a majority, then coalition is a choice," SZDSZ head Gabor Kunec said, who also aspires

to the premiership.

He said that a national SZDSZ congress could decide next Sunday, the day after a conference convened by the MSZP to pick coalition partners and select a prime minister.

Much could depend on that SZDSZ decision.

If the MSZP fails to achieve its goal of a broad coalition based on national consensus, then all its endeavours to have itself internationally acknowledged as a progressive force are in jeopardy, analysts here assessed.

The MSZP has said it would continue to press for Hungary to become a full member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) affiliation to the European Union and other European organisations.

"Never before has this country been so much in need of Western support than now," Mr. Horn said Sunday, adding that his first official visit if elected prime minister would be to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.



## A dying way of life

### Australian stockmen battle to preserve bush culture

By Michael Perry  
Reuters

**LONGREACH, Australia** — Their deeds are recorded on the 10-dollar note, poems pay homage to them and tourist organisations promote them as the true Australians.

But how relevant and realistic is the classic image of the bush stockman in 1994 multi-cultural Australia?

"There's an emotional part of me that says I'd like to see that image remain but I don't know if it can survive," says Mathew Morgan, the son of a second-generation Queensland cattle grazer.

The Morgans could have stepped straight from the pages of Andrew "banjo" Paterson, whose poems the Man from Snowy River and Clancy of the Overflow embody Australia's early national character — hardy men and women who battled a harsh environment and often lost to drought, flood and bushfire.

Reared on the endless paddocks where Clancy went a droving, the Morgans run an 18,000-acre spread of wheat and cattle at Condamine in central Queensland.

The family was virtually born in the saddle. Their natural garb comprises the Aussie bush icons of the Akubra felt hat, R.M. Williams riding boots and a stockman's drizzlebone raincoat.

But they know the country is changing and many Australians today

know virtually nothing of their way of life.

"We all like to think that the Man from Snowy River and Clancy of the Overflow will live forever but I don't think it will be the case," says Mathew as he squats beside his Drovers' campfire on the road to Longreach, Queensland.

Despite its bush imagery, the country is one of the world's most urbanised societies with 85 per cent of people living in towns and cities.

More than two thirds of Australians, or 12.3 million, live between the Pacific and the Great Dividing Range which runs north-south along the eastern seaboard. The bush is home to fewer than one per cent of the population, 143,000 people.

Two generations ago, the majority of Australians were from Anglo-Saxon stock and a racist white Australia policy prevented any dilution of the country's bush culture.

The majority of migrants still come from Britain and Europe but as each year passes more and more arrive from Asia with little, if any, knowledge of Australia's bush heritage.

"For the ethnic communities bush culture is probably something fairly remote," says Gary Lee of the New South Wales Ethnic Affairs Commission.

Mr. Lee says the closest most migrants come to the bush is watching television

yet the bush is still relevant in multi-cultural Australia.

"To me it's unique. It is something I can say is Australian culture, anything else is borrowed from some other place," says Mr. Lee, who migrated from Laos in 1965.

Despite social and cultural changes, the bush stockman survives but like his urban cousins is undergoing a transformation.

Being a good, honest, hard-working stockman is no longer enough to survive in the outback. Today, a computer and a tertiary qualification in business management, economics, science or the environment are as much part of a stockman's gear as his saddle, stockwhip and Akubra hat.

"We do nothing without a computer these days," says Uen Morgan, 59, a no-nonsense cattleman who left school at age 15.

"The idea that you can survive out here just by hard yakka (work) is not right. Everyone out here has a computer at home. Things are changing out here."

Unlike 1906 when Morgan's grandfather first exported frozen beef to Britain, today the Morgans service niche markets around the world. Their herd is divided into specialised breeds for the Japanese marbled beef market, the United States' hamburger market, local consumption and live exports to Southeast Asia.

Each member of the family has a specific job, from marketing and sales to feedlot management and export strategies. To break into the tough Japanese market the Morgans formed a partnership with three Japanese meat distributors to run a 12,000-head feedlot.

"The people that survive in the next 20 years in rural areas will be those who utilise all the modern technology and facilities that are available," says Mr. Uen. "The old style of running a few cows in a back paddock has finished."

Ironically, in an effort to cushion their lives from price fluctuations and trade wars, cattle and sheep graziers are expanding into tourism and promoting their storybook image as stockmen.

But the move into tourism is not solely an economic venture. Many see such operations as living museums for future Australians.

The Morgans' venture offers tourists a few days in the saddle and around the campfire as the professionals move 1,000 cattle from Longreach to Condamine — a four month, 1,000-km journey.

"We are trying to show people something which is historically Australian and give people an opportunity to become a part of it," says Boss Drover Rian Morgan.

"This lifestyle will not last forever. One day this type of venture will be the only way you'll get to see it."

## Unrepentant dies the former supremo

By Richard Ingham  
Agence France Presse

**BERLIN** — Erich Honecker went to his grave in Stalinist style, never once regretting the acts that made him a figure of infamy, and holding fast to the notion that history would ultimately vindicate him.

The former East German Communist Party chief and head of state, who died of liver cancer Sunday in Santiago, Chile, at the age of 81, was the architect of the Berlin Wall, probably the most notorious edifice ever made.

Mr. Honecker led the German Democratic Republic from 1971 to 1989, but resigned in October 1989 shortly before the Berlin Wall collapsed amid a flood of refugees to the West, and fled to Moscow in March 1991.

Expelled in July 1992, he was tried in Berlin for the deaths of Germans killed trying to escape to West Germany, but was freed the following year and allowed to go into exile after being diagnosed with cancer.

He fled to Chile, where his daughter lives, in January 1993.

Mr. Honecker never voiced sorrow for the hundreds who were killed while fleeing to the West or for the millions of lives stifled by the web of eavesdroppers and hidden microphones that kept him in power.

"Neither ox nor ass can halt the forward march of socialism," Mr. Honecker liked to say to the workers in his trips to factories and collective farms.

While on trial years for the deaths of those killed while fleeing, the former supremo reluctantly admitted that the slain fugitives had died "an unnatural death."

They "not only had a human effect on us, but also harmed us politically," he said in a dry tone that earned him little sympathy among Germans.

But it also underlined how much Mr. Honecker was a grim anachronism in Germany's post-unity era of satellite TV, faxes and five weeks' paid holiday.

Mr. Honecker was born August 25, 1912 into poverty in the Saarland, western Germany, to a working-class family that was the archetype of human exploitation in the industrial age. His father was a miner.

Those bitter early years



Erich Honecker: the architect of the Berlin wall

and the socialist teachings of his father moulded the young Honecker. From his youngest time, political activity was as natural as breathing and eating. He set up a socialist cell in his junior school at the age of 11.

His activism brought him to Berlin, at the crossroads of European history in the 1920s and 1930s, when Communist militants battled with Nazi brownshirts over the remains of the dying Weimar Republic.

In 1935 he was arrested by the Nazi authorities for taking part in an underground Communist organisation. He was jailed until 1945, when the prison was liberated by Soviet troops.

After the war, Mr. Honecker proved to be one of Stalin's most willing disciples. The grey technocrat rose quickly through the ranks of the Moscow-installed regime

in East Berlin, taking charge of the party's youth wing, then being handed the key task of ensuring internal security and party loyalty.

Under the first East German party chief, Walter Ulbricht, Mr. Honecker was tasked with building the Berlin Wall in August 1961, the act that forestalled but could not prevent the finally fatal human haemorrhage of the East German state.

Ten years later, the trusty Honecker was on hand to take over from Ulbricht, who had shown signs of deviation from the Soviet line at a time of agitation in Poland and Czechoslovakia.

But ironically, it was the Soviet Union that unwittingly sowed the seeds of Mr. Honecker's downfall, according to some historians.

In the first oil shock, Mos-

cow effectively wrecked its allies' five-year plans by forcing them to pay higher prices for their energy supplies — but refused to pay more for their finished exports.

"This had the effect of forcing Honecker into economic dependency on West Germany," said Wilfried Rogasch, a historian at the German Historical Museum in Berlin.

Bonn dangled billions of marks in credit to win more and more concessions on human rights and cross-border visits between East and West, using its economic lever to bust open the hermetic seal of the wall.

Mr. Honecker clung to his Stalinist doctrine, blind to any problems, while the state sank deeper into debt and industrial decay, the extent of which remained hidden until German unification in 1990.

## Sanaa tells U.N.

(Continued from page 1)

southern leader Ali Salem Al Beidh's Yemen Socialist Party (YSP).

Mr. Ounsi said Sanaa Sunday asked the "moderate" YSP members to respond to a possible truce and an agenda on unity, annulling secession, unifying the army and respecting President Ali Abdullah Saleh's legitimacy.

These have been the demands of the north since the war started and have been rejected by the south.

"Without agreeing to this, a ceasefire will not lead to an end to the war. At best it could serve as a truce after which war will be resumed at a more intensified level," Mr. Ounsi said.

A visiting southern official said in Kuwait Monday that he was confident that several Arab countries would recognise the breakaway Yemen Democratic Republic.

"I found a very positive attitude in the countries I have visited regarding the issue of recognising the YDR as well as the need for a quick halt to hostilities," Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, the prime minister of the breakaway state, told AFP.

Mr. Attas arrived in Kuwait on Sunday after visiting Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

A majority of Arab countries, except Qatar, Jordan and Iraq, are going to recognise the YDR.

The 1990 unification of the former conservative north and Marxist south Yemen "as it was imposed by the north-erners was a bitter experience. Future generations may find a better formula," he said.

On the battle fields, sporadic artillery duels Monday broke an uneasy calm along the front lines, military officials said.

Fighting has died down since Sunday along an arc west, north, and east of the southern stronghold of Aden.

It was not clear if the lull was linked to preparations for a possible new northern offensive or week-long, intensive Arab and other diplomatic efforts to seek a ceasefire in the civil war.

Forces loyal to Mr. Al Beidh fired two Scud missiles earlier Sunday at the north in retaliation for what they charged was a northern missile attack on Saturday on Aden that killed one civilian, officials here said.

The North, which denied the charge saying it had only fired artillery at military targets at Aden airport, reported that one Scud exploded about 20 kilometres from the capital Sanaa and the other landed in a suburb without exploding.

There were no casualties or damage, northern officials said.

Northern warplanes blasted and destroyed four southern warships off the coast of Abyan province east of Aden, according to a spokesman for forces loyal to Mr. Saleh.

Four southern warplanes were also shot down over the same province and above the southern base at Al Anad, 60 kilometres north of Aden, he said.

Meanwhile, Western diplomats claimed that Saleh has clamped down with an iron fist, arresting hundreds and setting up a spy network in a bid to check the slightest resistance to the civil war.

Members of the southern Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), trapped in Sanaa by the outbreak of war have been forced into hiding after "several militants have been killed," one diplomat in the region said.

And hundreds of people have been arrested since fighting erupted, he added.

A tight internal surveillance network has been set up in all of the big cities in the north, but particularly in Sanaa, the source said.

"Teams of informers controlled by the security services patrol every district creating a climate of general suspicion," the diplomat said.

"Any contacts between Yemenis and those foreigners still in the capital are subject to particular scrutiny," another diplomat said.

Newspapers too have stop-

ped appearing as accurate information about the fighting remains scarce.

Before the conflict more than 50 papers and periodicals were published in Sanaa and Yemen was proud of being one of the rare countries in the Arabian Peninsula where freedom of the press and a multi-party system flourished.

Now the three big official dailies At Thawra, The May 22 and The September 26 are the only papers authorised to appear.

Sanaa residents, like their countrymen in Aden, are in the dark about what is really happening on the front lines, the scene of fierce fighting as the south tries to hold back a northern advance towards the city.

"They don't know the real toll of human losses, which is of course their main concern. But it is a taboo subject which will probably not really be addressed for a long time," said one diplomat.

He said, quoting Arab doctors working in Sanaa, that "thousands had died" in the fighting and the capital's hospitals, requisitioned for war casualties, were "working at full capacity."

An official northern spokesman said a figure of more than 50,000 dead on both sides — reported in Saudi Arabia's Al Yaom newspaper — was too high, and that a toll would be published soon.

## Former Nation Of Islam aide shot after speech

RIVERSIDE, California (AP)

— A black gunman tried to assassinate controversial former Nation Of Islam spokesman Khalid Abdul Muhammad Sunday, hitting Mr. Muhammad and at least two other people.

Mr. Muhammad was shot in the leg and three other men, two of whom were identified by police as bodyguards, also were hit. The gunman was beaten by an angry crowd shouting, "he works for the Jews," before police could drag him away, bloodied.

Mr. Muhammad was in stable condition following surgery at Riverside Community Hospital, said nursing supervisor Elizabeth Bataglia. She said she would be held for the night.

He suffered a gunshot wound to his lower left leg, and was grazed by a bullet on his right leg, said University of California, Riverside spokeswoman Kathy Barton.

The shooting occurred just after 6 p.m. outside an auditor-

ium at the university, where Mr. Muhammad was answering questions from the crowd after giving a speech.

"The minister was answering questions when I got hit," bodyguard Caliph Sadit, 24, told the Press-Enterprise of Riverside county as he was being treated for a gunshot wound to the chest. "I went towards him because I was worried about someone else getting shot."

Mr. Sadit was in satisfactory condition," Ms. Barton said. "I see this man scream something, (and) 'pop, pop, pop, pop' then all hudes broke loose," said Associated Press photographer William Wilson Lewis III, who was at the scene.

Mr. Muhammad was taken by aides through the university's gym and out to his car, then taken to the hospital, said Jack Chappell, spokesman for the university.

Officers held off the crowd with drawn weapons before taking the gunman to a hospi-

tal, witnesses said. Police declined to release information about his whereabouts or condition," Ms. Barton said.

Mr. Sadit was taken to Riverside General Hospital, where another bodyguard, Varnado Puckett, 34, was being treated for three gunshot wounds to his left calf, right shin and right shoulder," Ms. Barton said. He was in serious condition, she said.

Terrell D. Strait, 20, also was shot in the left shoulder and abdomen, Ms. Barton said. He was in good condition at an undetermined hospital, Ms. Barton said. She did not know if he was part of Mr. Muhammad's security detail.

Two people also were injured in the scuffle, Mr. Chappell said. Authorities had no details of their injuries or whereabouts.

Mr. Muhammad's son, 9-year-old Farrakhan Khalid Muhammad, was carried away by aides as he screamed, "daddy daddy daddy" the boy, who

frequently appears on stage with Mr. Muhammad, did not appear to be injured.

The boy was taken to the hospital, where a doctor told him that his father was going to be ok. About 40 Muhammad supporters had gathered at the hospital.

It wasn't known which hospital the gunman was taken to. Mr. Muhammad, 43, was suspended from his duties as senior aide to Nation Of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan after a speech in November in which he called Jews "the bloodsuckers" of the black community and said the Pope was a "no-good cracker." He also urged blacks to kill all whites in South Africa, including women, children and the disabled.

That speech was denounced by President Bill Clinton and by black and Jewish leaders. Mr. Farrakhan demoted Mr. Muhammad, but defended what he called the "truths" in Mr. Muhammad's speech.

## South claims northern forces shot protesters

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — South Yemen Monday claimed rival northern troops used "intense" fire against peaceful anti-war demonstra-

tion protesting northern aggression and forced conscription, killing and wounding many.

There was no independent

confirmation of the incident, which the South claimed occurred Sunday in Ta'izz, 130 kilometres southwest of Sana'a. It did not say how many were allegedly killed and wounded in the reported incident.

The North did not immediately comment on the charge.

Both sides have issued exaggerated claims throughout Yemen's civil war, which erupted May 5 following months of skirmishes between the nation's rival militias and growing tension between President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a northern, and vice President Ali Salem Al Beidh, a south-

ern. Mr. Beidh announced the South's secession May 20, breaking up the impoverished Arabian Peninsula nation's 4-year-old union. It has not been recognised internationally as an independent state.

"Many peaceful demonstrators were killed and injured the exact number of casualties as a result of this bloody confrontation is not yet known," it said.

The rival leadership in the northern capital, Sana'a, and the southern coastal stronghold of Aden, have rejected each others' proposed steps for peaceful resolution of the conflict. The South is seeking Arab League mediation, while the North has rejected all outside interference.

The South, in its charge broadcast on Aden Radio, claimed northern forces opened "intense fire" from helicopters and military vehicles on the peaceful demonstration in Ta'izz.

The protesters had been chanting slogans condemning Mr. Saleh's government for continuing the war and for forcing Ta'izz residents to go to the front lines, according to the broadcast monitored by the British Broadcasting Corp.

"Many peaceful demonstrators were killed and injured the exact number of casualties as a result of this bloody confrontation is not yet known," it said.

## Jordan has not taken sides

(Continued from page 1)

hear any Jordanian official saying the Kingdom has taken sides in the conflict.

Dr. Ekour blamed Arab regimes that he said have supported one party in Yemen against the other, adding that these attitudes only serve the objectives of the United States and its satellite states in the region.

Jordan supports the unity of the Yemeni people and land but does not work to impose anything on them, Lower House of Parliament member Saleh Irsheidat said.

If this support of unity was interpreted to mean that the Kingdom has taken sides in the conflict then that is a wrong interpretation, he said.

"We are with unity as long as it is the wish of the Yemeni people," Dr. Irsheidat said.

His Majesty King Hussein had earlier said that the Kingdom will provide humanitarian assistance to Yemen but will not interfere in the internal

affairs of the war-torn Arab Peninsula country.

North Yemen has previously rejected any foreign intervention in the civil war, which has been raging for over three weeks without leading to a decisive military victory.

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali had said that Jordan would not mediate in the conflict unless both parties to it agree on its role, adding that the Kingdom would not "interfere in support of either parties to the crisis."

Akher Khabar Arabic daily Monday reported that a group of journalists did not name have protested to Dr. Anani what it called "the biased coverage of the Yemeni war by the official media."

The paper quoted the group as telling the minister in a statement that such an attitude would not allow Jordan to play any positive role in trying to mediate the conflict in the future.

## PLO vows

(Continued from page 1)

one of their leaders told AFP.

The walkout came after suspected Israeli agents in a car chased four of the men from the Hawks, the armed wing of the mainstream PLO group Fateh.

"Out of 90 Hawks who began training four days ago, 70 have left," said Rajah Abu Sita, one of the Hawks leaders.

"We are returning to the Hawks, to protect ourselves and defend ourselves if attacked," they wrote.

"We are still hunted by Israeli intelligence services even if there is an agreement between Israel and the PLO."

"We want protection and weapons because we still feel we are in danger."

Mr. Rajah said: "Rabin has left certain elements here to kill us."

He also complained that the training camp was supposed to be solely for former Hawks.

"We were surprised to find about 100 other recruits who did not belong to our group, who were not wanted by the Israelis and who had never even carried out any political activities."

ity, neither inside nor outside the camp. We don't even have any weapons.

"On Sunday when we went into town, armed men in a Peugeot 504 chased us. We were lucky to escape."

The two cousins sent a letter Sunday to Palestinian police Chief General Nasr Yusef to explain why they were leaving.

"There is no security in the camp," they wrote. "We are still hunted by Israeli intelligence services even if there is an agreement between Israel and the PLO."

"We want protection and weapons because we still feel we are in danger."

Mr. Rajah said: "Rabin has left certain elements here to kill us."

He also complained that the training camp was supposed to be solely for former Hawks.

"We were surprised to find about 100 other recruits who did not belong to our group, who were not wanted by the Israelis and who had never even carried out any political activities."



## Latin America looks to next wave of phone investments

NEW YORK (R) — Latin America, where a call across the globe will see its antiquated telephone systems overhauled in the next couple of years as a new wave of investment pushes in.

Industry analysts say new projects and privatisations from Mexico to Argentina will modernise equipment, bring far wider access to cellular phones and draw fresh capital — but with many new risks for investors.

"There is so much pent-up demand because phone service is so bad," said Brian Miller at C.S. First Boston Corp.

"Look at Mexico. There are about 10 lines per 100 people, compared with 50 in the United States. As these economies develop, there's going to be a lot more growth in telecommunications," he said.

The influx of investment in Latin telecoms until now has been mostly associated with privatisations of the creaking state monopolies that dominated the industry for decades.

Some smaller self-offs are still in line, and privatised phone firms are drawing heavy

investment.

But compared with outright sales, the next wave of investments is likely to be more complex and competitive.

"There's a greater element of risk in this area now," said Oscar Castro at Montgomery Global Communications Fund.

Plenty of privatisations are in the works, "but maybe the hype we've seen in the past two years has reached its peak," he said.

Two Chilean telecom firms, Chilestat and Telexchile, are due to join the country's main telephone firm, Compañia Telefonos de Chile, on the U.S. stock market.

Major new cellular operations are coming on line this year in Argentina, Chile and Mexico. Privatisations of all or part of state-owned phone services are at varying stages in Peru, Uruguay, Ecuador and some Central American states.

The continent-wide move into cellular phones has implications that are not just commercial, but also cultural.

"There is a whole new culture of business in Latin America, and it is totally dependent on cellular phones," said Juan

Carlos Garcia, analyst at Salomon Brothers. "Cellular is growing so much because they're starting from zero. In Mexico, customers increased twofold in a year."

Mr. Miller said he recently visited a Venezuelan office where all the executives had cellular phones on their desks — a comment not only on the availability of cellphones, but on the quality of the regular phones.

The flourishing of mobile phones opens the prospect of service reaching remote towns across Latin America where phone lines are few, but where there may be attractive markets.

In Argentina, a consortium led by GTE Corp. is building a \$700 million network to bring cellular communications to towns with as few as 500 people.

The consortium, Compañia Telefonica del Interior, in November won an Argentine government tender that was one in a series of steps to loosen communications laws and draw new investment after Argentina privatised phone

services.

"Liberalisation is a second round of investment, which those who missed the first round — privatisation — can take advantage of," said Stephen Dalla Betta of Pyramid Research, a telecommunications research firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

In Mexico, companies are already jockeying for position before the 1996 break-up of Telmex's long-distance monopoly.

But the "crown jewel of privatisation," as Mr. Dalla Betta put it, is Latin America's economic colossus, Brazil.

Investors there may have a while to wait. The leader in opinion polls before October's presidential elections, leftist candidate Luiz Inacio "Lula" da Silva, has pledged to keep telecommunications under state control.

But analysts say that even if Mr. Da Silva wins, pressure will grow for liberalisation and wider private investment.

A recent poll showed that 56 per cent of Brazilians wanted state telephone firm Telebras' monopoly lifted.

## Oil executives get to grips with environment

STAVANGER, Norway (R) — A U.S. oil company chief executive told a global oil congress Monday that air in the United States was cleaner than it had been since the industrialisation of America in the 19th century.

Less than an hour later, however, a top Russian oil official painted a grim portrait of oil-related pollution in the former Soviet Union that has left vast areas choked by poisoned air and water.

The World Petroleum Congress (WPC), a gathering of 2,000 oil industry leaders and politicians held every three years, opened Monday in this western Norwegian oil town to strong warnings that the industry must play a key role in cleaning up the environment.

Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, who also chairs a U.N. environmental commission, told delegates

who included OPEC Secretary-General Subroto and several oil ministers that big business was not living up to society's expectations.

"The present situation falls dangerously short of our needs... the gap between the powerful process of economic globalisation driven by business firms and corporations on the one hand, and the explosive nature of most social, economic, environmental and political problems, is unacceptable," she said.

Ms. Brundtland, saying market forces could not be left to solve environmental or social problems, called on governments and big business to improve their cooperation.

Constantine Nicandros, chief executive of U.S. oil giant Conoco, told the congress that "certain parts of society will never be satisfied with the environmental head-

way we are making" in the oil industry.

He said oil spills had been reduced dramatically in the past 10 years and that the U.S. petroleum industry spent \$10.5 billion on the environment in 1992 "more than the entire industry spent on exploration in the U.S. that year."

"The air in the United States is cleaner than it ever has been since the industrialisation of America," Mr. Nicandros said.

The U.S. executive said "political correctness and expediency" had overtaken the debate on global warming and he appealed for further study of warning before any action was undertaken.

The oil industry fears governments will impose harsh limits on exhaust emissions from vehicles to reduce air pollution, cutting into their profits.

Alexandr Putilov, president of Rosneft, Russia's state oil producer board, painted a gloomier picture, appealing for help from Western oil firms and governments to start clearing up his country's environmental mess.

Mr. Putilov cited undrinkable water in Central Asian Tatarstan, air pollution around large areas of the River Volga and "damage to the environment caused by multiple accidents at oil and oil products pipelines."

Shell Oil Company executive Dirk Van Der Meer, scientific director of the congress, said environmental issues would dominate the three-day meeting, which in the past has focused on oil prices and production or technical issues.

"The challenge is to sustain growth in a responsible manner," he said.

## Croatia issues controversial currency

ZAGREB (AFP) — Croatia Monday celebrated the fourth anniversary of the end of communist rule by issuing a controversial new currency and reviving debate over the country's pro-fascist past.

The controversy over the new currency, the kuna, stems from its own history as the

currency first used by the pro-Nazi Ustasha regime under Ante Pavlic, which ruled Croatia from 1941 to 1945.

President Franjo Tudjman, who chose the controversial name, presided over a mid-day ceremony at the central bank to bring the kuna into circulation, replacing the Croatian

dinar.

The nationalist leader has brushed aside criticism, notably from opposition forces and communities in the former Yugoslav republic who view the new currency as an affront to their communities.

In Croatian, kuna means

marten, whose fur — according to historians — served as a unit of exchange in the Middle Ages.

In an interview Saturday, Mr. Tudjman noted that neither Germany nor Italy had named the mark or lira, both of which were in circulation during World War II.

## Chase provides bond for ATT Saudi project

DUBAI (R) — Chase Manhattan Corp. has provided a \$197.55 million performance bond for ATT Corp.'s massive telephone contract in Saudi Arabia, bankers said.

It was the first of what may be several financial arrangements for the \$24 billion deal, for which a letter of intent was awarded on May 9.

Chase provided the bond on deadline on Saturday, guaranteeing ATT's performance for up to the seven years allotted for the work.

One banker said Chase, which does business with ATT worldwide, had faced keen competition for the bond, including from banks that do not have close relations with the company.

The project requires a fully digital communications network with 1.5 million lines and thousands of related components.

Sources close to the deal said ATT will be expected to reinvest a portion of the value of the contract in Saudi industry, "offsetting" its value in a similar way to that in major Saudi defence contracts.

Bankers said it was not yet clear what would be required for overall financing for the phone deal, even if the Saudi post telegraph and telephone ministry or ATT or both would be seeking financing.

ATT's managing director in Saudi Arabia, Michael Brown, told the Saudi Gazette that discussions on financing the

project would begin on June 4.

The bankers said the U.S. government's Export-Import Bank had made a preliminary commitment to provide financing, though it was not yet clear whether this would be in the form of guaranteeing commercial loans or making a loan itself.

But on a contract of this size, it was seen likely that funds would be sought from as many sources as possible given competing demands on the market for Saudi-related financing.

"For a \$4 billion deal they'll have to scrape every barrel to make sure they have enough finance available," one banker in the region commented.

The Saudi government signed a \$1.3 billion loan with

local banks in April to cover U.S. arms purchases, and will be seeking finance for at least part of a \$6 billion purchase of American airliners.

The market is also expected to be tapped for a loan of around \$700 million for an expansion worth at least \$1 billion by the partly state-owned Jubail-based Saudi Petrochemical Co. (Sadaf).

The Kuwait-based Gulf Investment Corp. parent of Gulf International Bank, was appointed last year as financial adviser for the Sadaf project.

Financial sources said banks, possibly regional or local only, may be asked next month to submit bids for arranging or underwriting it.

## Bank of America to close Egyptian branches

CAIRO (R) — Bank of America, one of the first foreign banks to open in Egypt, said Monday it was closing both its branches and would not accept new business.

"The bank shall cease to accept any new banking operations as of June 30, 1994," the bank, which has branches in Alexandria and Cairo, said in a

statement published in local newspapers.

It requested depositors and other creditors to write before Sept. 15 to the bank's control department in the Central Bank of Egypt concerning any rights they may claim.

"The reason for closing down operations in Egypt is purely a strategic change in the

bank's business," senior vice president and area manager Michael Seibel told Reuters.

"We feel we can better handle business for our customers through our correspondents in Egypt rather than doing it ourselves," Mr. Seibel said.

"Egyptian banks are better placed in Egypt to do business and we have no intention to compete with them," he said.

"It is not logical to compete with an Egyptian bank which has at least 340 branches."

Mr. Seibel said his bank "has good relations with many Egyptian banks through which we can do our business."

Bank of America was one of the first foreign banks to set up branches in Egypt during the liberalisation of the 1970s. It opened its Cairo branch March 1976 and Alexandria branch on September 1979.

## Intra-Asian exports boom as role of North American market fades

TOKYO (AFP) — Asian economies are boosting their exports to each other as the importance of the North American market fades, the international trade and industry said in an annual report approved by cabinet.

The ministry's white paper on international trade noted that increases in exports towards Asia were particularly strong for Japan and Hong Kong between 1986 and 1992 and even more so for South Korea and Taiwan. China's exports, heavily targeted towards Asia already, moved in the same direction.

Back in 1986, North America absorbed more than half of

Taiwan's total exports and Asia only a quarter. Six years later, North America accounted for 30 per cent of Taiwan's exports compared with 40 per cent for Asia.

While Japan's exports to North America have remained above 40 per cent of the total, its exports to Asia have jumped from 30.7 per cent to 43.5 per cent in the same period. Japan's trade surplus with Asia meanwhile surpassed its imbalance with the United States for the first time ever last year.

Midori Tani, the director of the ministry's international trade research who authored this year's report, told a news

conference that the development of Japan's export pattern was largely insensitive to prices.

Japanese exports to Asia are dominated by capital goods such as machinery which are needed to modernise Asian economies themselves, she noted.

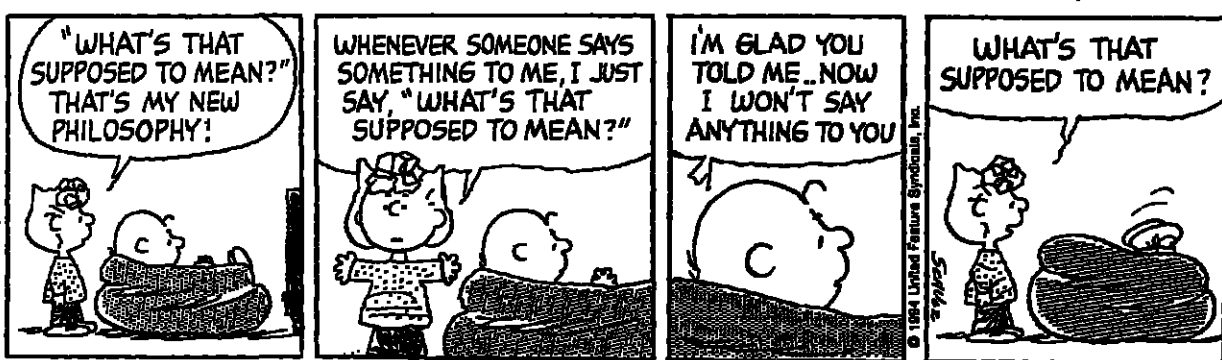
But the country's imports, often dominated by consumer goods, are "overproportionately sensitive" to the rate of Japanese economic growth. As a result, they expand faster than the rest of the economy when times are good and contract more sharply when times are bad, she said.

Ms. Tani noted that Australia and the United States were, while on the periphery of the region, not insensitive to the booming growth in Asian economies.

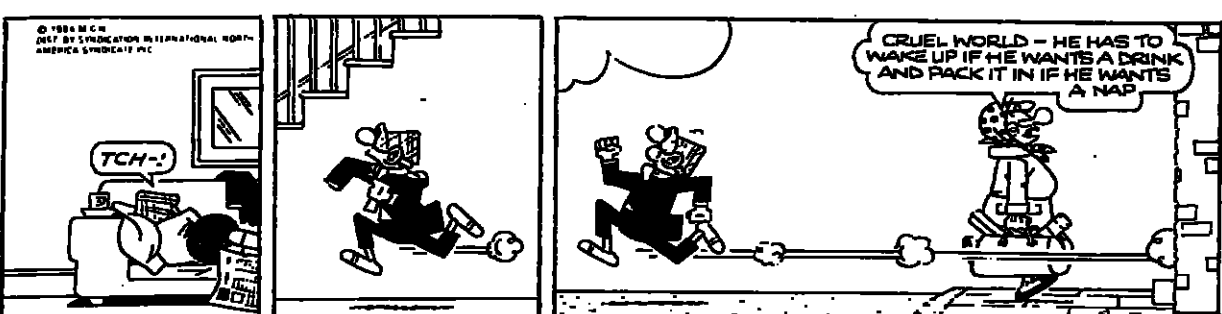
Australia, in particular, "is moving towards Asia," she said.

Australia's exports, mainly agricultural products and raw materials, have soared towards South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore, climbing from 16 per cent of all exports to 29 per cent during the period. Exports to Japan have fallen slightly but still account for more than 25 per cent of the total.

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff

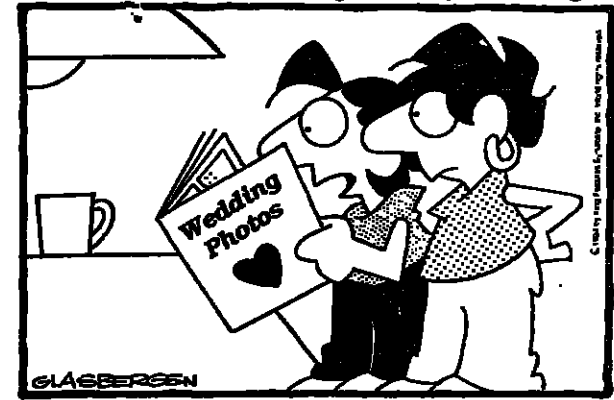


## Jordan Times

Tel.: 667171

## THE BETTER HALF

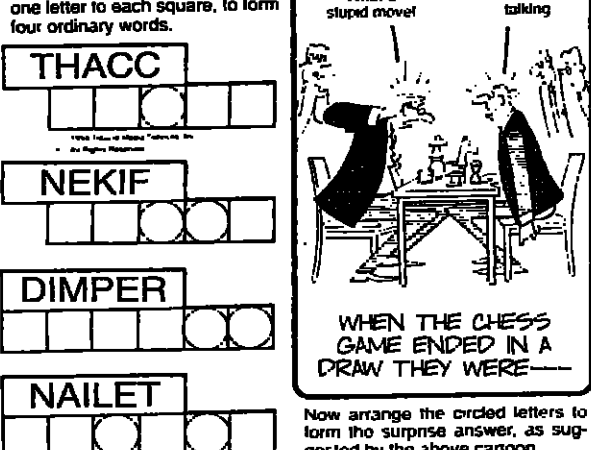
By Glasbergen



"My mother thinks she's quite a gourmet. She threw five different kinds of rice."

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



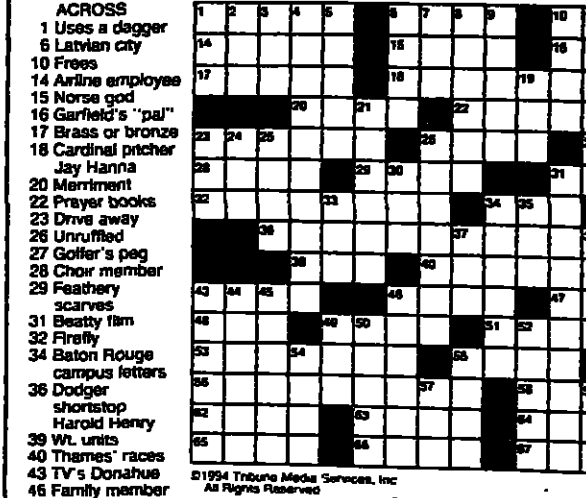
Now arrange the jumbled letters to form the words, as suggested by the cartoon.

Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

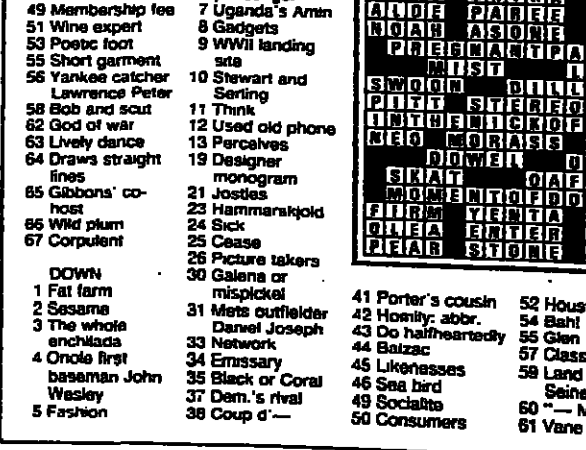
Yesterday's Jumbles: PRONE ENJOY ADMIRE EYEFUL  
Answer: What the newlyweds called their first trip — A "JOY" RIDE

## THE Daily Crossword

by Janet R. Bender



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**Milano**  
Restaurant  
You Know  
Our Pizzas & Sandwiches  
Now Try The  
**Italian Pasta**  
*Milano Way*  
Spaghetti  
Penne  
Fettuccine  
Prepared to your taste from fresh  
ingredients.  
Free Value & Delivery  
Serving the community



## Serbs counter-attack to halt push west by Bosnian army

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Serb forces are counter-attacking in north-central Bosnia-Herzegovina in a bid to halt a push west by the Muslim-dominated Bosnian army, a U.N. spokesman said Monday.

The Serbs have also launched an offensive some 30 kilometres (20 miles) east of the major government-held town of Tuzla in north-eastern Bosnia, said Colonel Ekrem Avdic, spokesman for the Bosnian army Second Corps.

U.N. officials in the north-eastern sector were unable to confirm the report but said Monday that the sector, around the town of Sagna, had been active for the past 48 hours.

In the north-central region around Tesanj and Teslic, Serb forces are trying to regain ground lost during a Bosnian army offensive south-west of Tesanj, said Major Rob Annink, the Sarajevo spokesman for the U.N. Protection Force.

Over the past week, the Bosnian army captured all the heights overlooking Teslic, which is held by the Serbs, Maj. Annink said.

The Serbs began Sunday "retaliating with artillery on civilian areas," he added.

Maj. Annink said the Bosnians had concentrated troops in the region over the past weeks in preparation for an offensive.

Their objective approach to be to take over the Vlasice

plateau which dominates Travnik in order "to control the road to Donji Vakuf and probably move downwards" to the south, he said.

The Serb forces were also counter-attacking about 80 kilometres (50 miles) south of the region, around Turbe and Travnik, Maj. Annink said.

General Rasim Delic, the head of the Bosnian army, told a local daily recently that he thought conditions were ripe for liberating seven towns, including Teslic and Donji Vakuf.

In north-eastern Bosnia, the Serbs are "using artillery and tanks" with the probable objective of cutting the road to Teocak, said Col. Avdic, who was speaking in Tuzla.

Teocak, village devastated by the fighting, is at the extreme north of the "Sapna finger," a sector controlled by the Bosnians which commands access to the Posavina corridor, which runs along the top of Bosnia.

Control of the Posavina corridor, barely three kilometres wide at its narrowest point, allows the Serbs, via the town of Brcko, to link the territories they have won in Croatia and northwestern Bosnia with their conquests in eastern Bosnia right up to Serbia.

Col. Avdic said about 30 tanks had been brought to the region via Zvornik, a Bosnian town on the Drina River border with Serbia which has been under Serb control since the war broke out more than two

years. "The enemy is also concentrating troops in the region of Posavina. We think they are going to try something because they don't want a political agreement, Col. Avdic said.

The United Nations said Bosnian troop movements had been observed in the region, but five kilometres (three miles) west of Tuzla, near Lukavac.

Meanwhile members of the Bosnian parliament converged by besieged Sarajevo Monday for a key session to ratify a new federal alliance between Muslims and Croats against Serbs holding 70 per cent of the country.

The meeting was scheduled for Monday morning but had to be postponed until the late afternoon because many delegates were still trying to make their way through Bosnian Serb lines to the capital, which has been under siege for more than two years.

The meeting was called to adopt changes to the country's constitution allowing ratification of agreements between Muslims and Croats that were struck in Washington and Vienna.

Those agreements to form a federation seeking the greater share of land under any peace settlement ended months of conflict between Muslims and Croats, who began the war as allies but fell out while fighting for territory in central Bosnia.

Parliament is also due to ratify the Vienna agreement by

naming a Croat president, a Muslim vice-president and a Muslim prime minister to run the country for six months until new local and federal elections can be held.

The meeting coincides with talks among the warring parties and international mediators to try to agree on how to divide up the country, ravaged by two years of civil war.

The first session in France last week ended without agreement, but the new alliance is expected to resume talks with Serbs and an international "contact group" on June 6 and 7.

Mediators are proposing a 51-49 per cent split, with the greater share going to the new alliance. The Croats and Muslims have said they "partially accept" the offer, after retreating from earlier demands for 50 per cent of Bosnia.

The parliament meeting takes place on the eve of United Nations-organised talks in Geneva on a comprehensive ceasefire in Bosnia, to be attended by all the warring parties, U.N. commanders and international mediators.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said Sunday he would attend the ceasefire talks without conditions, but wanted a clear sign that sanctions against his sponsors Serbia and Montenegro would be eased before resuming negotiations on an overall settlement.



A Bosnian Serb guard (top) stands over Bosnian Muslim prisoners of war digging trenches on Mt. Majevica overlooking the northern Bosnian town of Tuzla (AFP photo)

## 'Germany is paying too much for Europe' becomes election theme

BONN (AFP) — Leading political figures, both on the right and left, have made an electoral theme of Germany's big financial contribution to the European Union (EU), suggesting that the level should be reduced.

With the European elections less than two weeks away, both Chancellor Helmut Kohl and opposition Social Democrat Party (SPD) leader Rudolf Scharping at the weekend took up the theme, which has become a favourite of the anti-Maastricht campaigners.

Economic authorities have added their weight to the argument.

According to the central bank, Germany pays the highest contribution to the EU budget, both in absolute terms and per head of population, although the average German's standard of living has

fallen to sixth place in the EU since west Germany and the poorer eastern part of the country were rejoined.

The vice-president of the European Investment Bank, Wolfgang Roth, also said at the weekend that the German contribution was "objectively" too high, as it had not been reviewed since the 1990 reunification.

He said it should take into account the fact that "a quarter or a fifth of Germany now has the social and economic conditions of production as those in Portugal or Greece, for example, or even a bit worse."

For Mr. Roth it was clear, on the other hand, that France and above all Britain did not pay enough.

Speaking in a parliamentary debate on Europe, the Christian Democrat Kohl said that in future national contributions

to EU coffers should take greater account of revenue per head.

The German aim was to get those countries which had a comparable per capita income to "accept more financial responsibilities than in the past," the chancellor said, stressing that Germany's capacity to pay had reached its "extreme limit."

However Mr. Kohl rejected calls for an immediate reduction of Germany's share, and said it was normal that Germany pay the most as it was Europe's leading economic power.

The premier of Bavaria, Edmund Stoiber, said it was unfair that Germany bore 30 per cent of the EU budget but received only 14.6 per cent of agricultural subsidies and, despite reunification, only some 12 per cent of

## Hosokawa unhurt after attack by gunman

TOKYO (AFP) — A man, believed to be a right-wing political activist, shot at former Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa here Monday, but he escaped unhurt, police said.

The 52-year-old attacker, who called himself Masakatsu Nozoe and a member of rightist group Shokunokuni, was immediately overpowered, police said, adding that they were questioning the gunman.

Mr. Hosokawa was attacked when he was standing at the entrance of Keio Plaza Hotel after attending an inaugural meeting held by the Tokyo chapter of his Japan New Party (JNP).

Further details of the attack were not immediately available.

Mr. Hosokawa was forced to resign as prime minister last month after being grilled in parliament over suspected shady loan he got from the scandal-tainted Sagawa Kyubin trucking group.

Opposition parties have demanded that Mr. Hosokawa testify in parliament about the scandal, while some members of the JNP, one of the major groups in the ruling coalition, said he should resign as party leader.

Mr. Hosokawa, 56, came to power last August in a general election which ended the Liberal Democratic Party's (LDP) 38-year grip on Japanese politics.

He has repeatedly denied opposition party allegations that his loan of 100 million yen (\$960,000) from Sagawa in 1982 was a bribe.

Mr. Hosokawa has said that he had repaid the loan, but he failed to show convincing evidence to the LDP and other opposition parties, which suspected it was a bribe.

Opposition forces are demanding that Mr. Hosokawa also testify about alleged dubious trading of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) stocks in 1986.

They maintain that Mr. Hosokawa netted a profit of 50 million yen illegally, using his father-in-law's name when trading the shares.

The former prime minister said that he had only helped his father-in-law to trade NTT shares and that it was not his deal.

But suspicion about the trade deepened earlier this month as investment consultant Shuzo Fujiki, who acted as an intermediary in the transaction, told parliament that he believed the trading was done by Mr. Hosokawa.

As Mr. Hosokawa's difficulties increased this month, four legislators left the JNP to form a political group of their own. More are expected to bolt from the party, political sources said.

An analyst has said that the JNP might suffer a serious setback in the next general elections to be held in July or August.

## Mandela, rightists to discuss white homeland

PRETORIA (R) — South African President Nelson Mandela and white separatist Ferdi Hartzenberg said Monday they would hold talks on demands for an Afrikaner homeland and amnesty for jailed rightists.

"We agree we must negotiate on behalf of our people with the government," Mr. Hartzenberg, leader of the Conservative Party (CP), told a news conference after talks with Mr. Mandela.

He said the talks would involve other right-wing leaders, including Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen.

Mr. Mandela confirmed the agreement, saying: "Trilateral negotiations will involve the Conservative Party, the Freedom Front and the government."

The CP boycotted South Africa's first all-race elections last month after it failed in attempts to secure a sovereign white homeland.

Mr. Viljoen's party participated in the election after negotiators agreed to legislate the creation of a Volksstaat Council where the feasibility of the homeland would be negotiated.

Asked by reporters about negotiations with the paramilitary AWP (Afrikaner Resistance Movement) leader Eugene Terre Blanche, Mr.

Mandela said: "We are not discriminating against any organisation to have discussions of that nature. It is a question of cooperation... our doors are open."

Meanwhile, the ANC said Monday that members of South Africa's township self-defence units often blamed for political violence should be disarmed, disbanded and some representatives integrated into the police force.

African National Congress (ANC) legislator and Regional Secretary Obed Bapela said his party had told regional commanders of the Self Defence Units (SDU) in Johannesburg's east townships that their groups should be disbanded, disarmed and integrated into the police service.

"Those below the age of 25 should be accepted as police reservists in neighbourhood watch programmes or integrated into the South African Police Service," Mr. Bapela told Reuters.

"Special catch-up schooling for those members between the ages of 13 and 18 should be provided," he added.

Analysts said it would be difficult to disarm the units, which tasted power in the run-up to historic all-race elections that swept the ANC to victory

last month.

"Every government taking over after years of political fighting has the same of problem of disarming rogue elements," a military analyst said.

But Mr. Bapela said the proposals would be negotiated with regional and national ministries of education and safety and security and could be put into action within a week or two.

"Some members of the units are experienced in township policing. For many months they patrolled streets to ensure the safety of township residents," Mr. Bapela said.

Mr. Bapela said members of the ANC's military wing called Umkhonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) had been easily integrated into the South African National Defence Force and believed SDU members could also fit well into the police.

The ANC said there were at least 2,000 SDU members in the battle-weary Johannesburg east townships of Kaitshong, Tokoza and Vosloorus.

Mr. Bapela said the programme would be extended to the other units in townships such as Soweto, Alexandra and Johannesburg South's nine townships known as the Vaal Triangle.

## 'Russia has stopped aiming missiles at West

MOSCOW (R) — Russia has stopped targeting its nuclear missiles at the West, meeting terms of a deal with U.S. President Bill Clinton to seal the end of the cold war.

Russian officials said Monday the change had raised the threshold of nuclear security in Russia and elsewhere. Russia's newly deprogrammed rockets could no longer take off, even if someone hit the launch button by mistake.

"The strategic missiles of the United States, Britain and Russia are no longer targeted at the territories of our respective countries," Sergei Yushenkov, chairman of the Defence Committee in the lower house of parliament, told reporters.

Interfax News Agency quoted Igor Sergeev, commander in chief of Russia's Strategic Nuclear Missile Force, as saying removing the flight programme from the deadly weapons meant that they could not take off.

"Even if someone attempted an unsanctioned (missile) launch, the rockets would not take off because they have no flight path," the agency said.

## Cliffhanger Colombian polls go to 2nd round

BOGOTA (R) — Colombians face a second round of presidential elections in three weeks after the closest vote the country has seen this century failed to produce an outright winner.

Official results late Sunday, with 95.6 per cent of polling stations reporting, had economist and former minister Ernesto Samper of the Liberal Party in a cliffhanger with conservative challenger and ex-televisation anchorman Andres Pastrana.

With 5.7 million ballots counted only 12,449 votes separated the two leading candidates.

Mr. Samper had 45.1 per cent of the vote, against 44.9 per cent for Mr. Pastrana, the National Registry Office said.

As no candidate got the required 50 per cent plus one of votes needed for outright victory, a second round of polling will take place on June 19 between the two front-runners.

Sixteen other candidates, who trailed far behind Mr. Samper and Mr. Pastrana, will now be eliminated.

The vote was generally peaceful, surprising officials in a country long hardened to drug and guerrilla violence. Marxist rebels in remote areas skirmished with troops and burnt a few buses but there were no civilian casualties and polling was not affected.

Turnout was low and nearly two out of every three voters stayed away.

Analysts and diplomats said the result was a blow for Mr. Samper, who was the favourite because he had the support of outgoing President Cesar Gaviria and the majority Liberal Party.

"It's a better result for Pastrana than for Samper," one senior Western diplomat told Reuters. "Samper was counting on a lead of at least four to five points over Pastrana at this point but this result leaves the

second round wide open."

Samper, 43, campaigned strongly on social issues, emphasising the need to boost spending on health and education and proposing subsidies to help small industry and the countryside. Some commentators, however, felt he was uninspiring and too left-of-centre for the party.

"From Samper's point of view this is a semi-defeat," commented Pierre Gilhodes, a Bogota-based political analyst and academic. "What appears to have happened is not so much that Pastrana won a lot of votes as that Samper failed to get the Liberal Party to turn out and vote for him."

The Liberal Party has dominated Colombian politics for the last half century, is generally reckoned to have two votes for every one conservative, and has not lost a presidential election when unopposed for more than 30 years.

## Admiral: Haiti blockade working

GUATANAMO NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — The chief of the U.S.-led blockade of Haiti said beed-up efforts to be working despite a tugboat's dash to port after a warning shot was fired across its bow.

Rear Admiral John J. Mazach said he didn't have exact figures but "the inbound traffic has gone down an awful lot."

Economic sanctions against Haiti to force its military to step down and restore democracy first went into effect last November.

The measures have largely been unsuccessful because fuel is funneled in from neighbouring Dominican Republic and blockade runners easily slip

their boats through the web of U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships.

Last week, the United States increased its presence to stop such activity and began pressuring the Dominican Republic to close its border.

But an hour before an increased worldwide ban against Haiti took effect on May 21, a Bahamian tugboat ignored a shot fired over its bow and continued on to the southern port of Jacmel with at least 400 barrels of fuel.

Another vessel, a Panamanian cargo ship also carrying fuel, did heed a warning shot days later.

One of the problems, Adm. Mazach said, is that smaller ships can sneak through the

blockade of large military ships trying to seal 1,000 miles (1,600 kms) of coastline.

"The larger-type ships... aren't coming here any more," Adm. Mazach said. "What we're seeing is the smaller boat running the coastline."

The navy's answer is a high-tech version of the patrol (PT) boats of World War II called PCS or Cyclones. The first two of as many as 13 — Cyclone I and Tempest — arrived last week at the naval base on Cuba's back porch, 90 miles (150 kms) from Haiti.

The ships are built to allow them to go into shallow waters, and companion high-speed rafts can follow a suspect vessel even closer to the coast.

## Peruvians make super sandwich

LIMA (R) — Some 1,500 young volunteers slapped together a nearly three-mile (4.5 km) long line of sardine paste sandwiches along a Lima expressway Sunday in an effort to win Peru a place in the Guinness Book of World Records. The sandwiches, made from 10,000 loaves of bread and 13,200 pounds (6,000 kilos) of sardine paste assembled on 5,000 tables stretched out along the eight-lane highway, were to be donated to children in Lima's shantytowns, organisers said. "This line of sandwiches represents five kilometres of Peruvian brotherhood," first lady Susana Higuchi De Fujimori said shortly before the collective task began. Tens of thousands of Peruvians gathered on footbridges over the highway and along the roadway itself to cheer the group on and offer advice. On completion, the Swiss inspection firm SGS officially measured the line of sandwiches at 4,576 yards or 2.7 miles (4.5 km). A Guinness representative was on hand to verify the record. Shortly after the 19-minute, 40-second task was finished, chaos ensued when pedestrians made off with some loaves, but mounted police soon restored order. More than 20 government and private sector entities, including Peru's navy, which baked and transported the loaves, sponsored the event that promises to put Peru into the record book for producing what organisers called "the world longest line of sandwiches."

## Revellers held at marijuana festival

WARRENS, Wisconsin (AFP) — About 1,000 people converged on this tiny Wisconsin town to promote — and enjoy — marijuana at the Weedstock festival. But about 20 revellers' fun went up in smoke as they were arrested Sunday on drug charges. "Thank you for smoking pot," and "Hemp our premier natural resources," read banners at the sixth annual gathering of marijuana fans, who made the pilgrimage to this village of about 300, in campers and on motorbikes. "This is a great time," said organiser Ben Masel. "It brings people together and it gives us the chance to educate them to the agricultural benefits of hemp."

## Delegates in Hong Kong share vision of toiletopia

HONG KONG (R) — Delegates from across Asia and the Pacific gathered in Hong Kong Monday with a dream in common, a world where public toilets are clean, sweet-smelling and lovable. "If children are to learn to keep toilets clean, they must love their public toilets," said Sachiko Arai, who heads a Japanese non-government action group set up to realise a dream of what she calls "toiletopia." Concerned people from throughout the region are attending a three-day seminar entitled "public toilets 1994," the prelude to a full international symposium next year. And woe betide anybody who does not take the subject seriously. "It's not a laughing matter," Dr. Ronald Leung, the straight-faced chairman of Hong Kong's Urban Council, told smiling reporters. "I think you press people all think so — that's why you will call me Dr. Toilet." Dr. Leung, whose hands-on approach to restrooms, earned him the nickname, said Hong Kong's public lavatories were among the best in the world even though many local residents still preferred to pop into those in hamburger restaurants. In Japan, the government and private groups are working hard to make the nation's less-than-pristine public toilets match its well-groomed city streets.

## Police slaughter beached whale

MANILA (AFP) — Policemen and residents of a coastal village in the eastern Philippines slaughtered a beached whale and feasted on its meat, the official Philippine News Agency (PNA) said Monday. "Excited policemen peppered the creature with ArmaLite (assault rifle) bullets" when the mammal ran aground near Manito town in Alibay Gulf last week, then villagers carved up its carcass with axes and machetes, an official of the Natural Resources Department told PNA. The whale is an endangered species protected by international agreement, but Edgardo Bongalon, a provincial official of the Natural Resources Department, said the agency had guidelines about tortoise preservation but none for whales.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Former Milan midfielder commits suicide

ROME (R) — Agostino Di Bartolomei, former midfielder for Italian clubs Roma and AC Milan, committed suicide Monday by shooting himself in the head at his home in southern Italy, the Ansa news agency said. Di Bartolomei, 39, retired in 1987 after 15 years as a professional. He had been running an insurance agency. Ansa said that Di Bartolomei, who won the first division title with Roma in 1983, shot himself in the head on the terrace of his villa in the town of San Marco Di Castellabate, south of Naples. Magistrates opened an inquiry. Di Bartolomei, famous for his ferocious free kicks as well as his midfield skills, was a Rome native who moved south after he retired. He was married with two children.

### Bigstone starts season with a flourish

PARIS (R) — Bigstone, one of last season's top European milers, began his season with a flourish Sunday, capturing the Group One Prix d'Ispahan at Longchamp. Bigstone, ridden by Olivier Peslier, took the measure of Hatoof with 200 metres to race in the 1.9 km test and readily held off Muhtarram by a neck. English-trained Muhtarram, ridden by Willie Carson, did not enjoy the clearest of runs in the seven-strong field, but Bigstone won on merit. Marido, winner of the Prix Ganay and the Mount of Guy Guignard, finished third, a length and a half behind Muhtarram, with Hatoof, ridden by Walter Swinburn, fading into fourth place. Bigstone won two major races in England last year. Targets for 1994 include the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown and Goodwood's Sussex Stakes. The Group One Prix Jean Prat went to provincially-trained Millkom, who extended his winning sequence to eight with jockey Jean-Rene Dubosc on board.

### Horses destroyed after identity mix-up

TOKYO (R) — Japanese officials have destroyed two horses after an inadvertent switch saw one of the pair racing for months under the other's identity, a spokesman for a regional racehorse industry organisation told Reuters Monday. The scandal over the mix-up meant the horses would almost certainly never have been allowed to race again, he said. Racing officials at Arai, in southern Japan, had apparently bought the horses from their respective owners, in part to compensate them, he said. "They tried but couldn't find new homes for the horses, and in the end they had to put them down," he added. The saga began in 1993 when Chikushaiken, a six-year-old mare long tagged as a no-hoper, suddenly won four races at the Arai course, near Kumamoto. Punters were astonished at her scintillating form, given her failure to notch a single victory in 1992. Rumour flew, but it was only later that things became clear. Officials at a racecourse near Kobe, further north, told their Arai counterparts they believed Chikushaiken had been switched by mistake with another light brown mare, Victory Clean, after they spent the off-season at the same farm. The embarrassed officials looked for a discreet way out, sealing the horses' fate. "I'm afraid it does look a bit like they just wanted to bury the affair before it became public," the regional industry group spokesman said.

### Burnley wins promotion

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Fullback Gary Parkinson scored the winning goal after Stockport had been reduced to nine men, giving Burnley a 2-1 victory Sunday in the division two playoff final. Parkinson netted in the 65th minute, shortly after Stockport's Chris Beumont had been given the red card for stomping on Burnley fullback Les Thompson. Stockport defender Michael Wallace had been sent off for spitting in the first half. Burnley, which finished sixth in the division standings, will advance to division one next season along with automatic qualifiers Reading and Port Vale, which finished first and second. Stockport was fourth in the standings.

### Australian dies after climbing Everest

SYDNEY (R) — An Australian mountain climber has died while descending Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said Monday. Michael Reinberger, 53, was one of two climbers in a large American-organised expedition who reached the summit but were trapped overnight by bad weather as they made their way down, a department spokesman said. "The Australian climber became seriously ill and died," the spokesman said. "We don't know exactly what happened."

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
AND TAMMAM HIRSH  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AJ1076 ♣KJ93 ♦108  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 1 ♣ 2 ♠  
What do you bid now?  
A.—To bid the fourth suit now would virtually compel your side to game and your hand is not good enough for that. Instead, we prefer the invitational bid of two no trump, so we do not hang partner for a minimum opening bid.
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠54 ♥10952 ♦AJ73 ♣554  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 1 ♣ 2 ♠  
What action do you take?  
A.—Your side's double fit increases the offensive potential of your hand while diminishing the combined defensive potential. There's no guarantee that you can defeat four spades and five hearts, if it doesn't make, won't be expensive. Bid it.
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AJ ♣Q987 ♥10872 ♦Q75  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 1 ♣ 2 ♠  
What action do you take?  
A.—If you have Negative Doubles in your arsenal, this is the perfect hand for it. If not, the only course open to you is to bid one no trump and see where that takes you.
- Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AKQ984 ♥AQ8 ♣8 ♦975  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?  
A.—This is a close decision between double followed by a spade bid and a one spade overall. Since you hold the master suit and 3 1/2 defensive tricks, we are of the opinion that the hand is just good enough to start with a takeout double and follow up by bidding spades. But it's no crime just to overall one spade.
- Q.5—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠Q975 ♥AKJ54 ♣K108 ♦6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 1 ♣ 2 ♠  
What do you bid now?  
A.—While the high-card count of this hand is only 14, its playing potential is tremendous. Two spades doesn't come close to doing it justice. Our vote goes to an invitational jump to three spades.

## Unser wins Indy title

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (AFP) — Pole-sitter Al Unser Jr. won his second Indianapolis 500 here Sunday after a heart-breaking crash eliminated leader Emerson Fittipaldi 16 laps from the finish.

Unser, who also won in 1992, took the checkered flag under caution conditions here Sunday in a crash-filled race, giving his four-time winner father, Al Unser, a special 55th birthday present.

Fittipaldi had dominated the race, leading 145 laps and appearing set for his second straight Indy 500 triumph. But he slammed into the fourth-turn wall on lap 184 and finished 17th.

"I'm very disappointed," the Brazilian said. "I was so close. I had everything in control."

Fittipaldi lost control of his Mercedes-powered Penske exiting the fourth turn, sending the rear of the car into the outer wall. The rear wing shredded off and the car skidded to a stop on the main straightaway, just short of the start-finish line.

"He got out there too far and the old vacuum cleaner got him," Unser said.

Fittipaldi, a former Formula One and Indy-car series champion, shook his raised hands in frustration as he sat helpless in the cockpit.

That left Unser in the lead and he maintained his margin over first-time Indianapolis starter Jacques Villeneuve of Canada to take the title. Stan Fox crashed three laps from the end, forcing the race to end under caution, with overtaking prohibited.

Mercedes' victory marked the first time in 70 years that an engine running here for the first time had won the Indy

500. Police estimated 500,000 people jammed the infield and outer grandstands, joining a global television audience to watch racers drive 200 laps, along the 2.5-mile (4 km) oval. At top speeds, the fastest cars lap in 39 or 40 seconds.

Roberto Guerrero's 20th-lap crash sent then leader Unser and second-place teammate Fittipaldi to the pits. Fittipaldi's crew finished in 11 seconds and the Brazilian grabbed the lead he would keep, except for pit stops, until the crash.

Unser's engine stalled after the stop and he had to be pushed back into place and restarted, dropping him into third on lap 23.

"I wanted to be easy on the clutch and I was too easy," Unser said.

England's Nigel Mansell finished 22nd after being struck from behind by rookie Dennis Vitolo during a caution period. Mansell suffered a concussion and a minor burn.

Michael Andretti was running third before suffering a flat tire, then stalling in the pits to fall well back, continuing his family's hard luck here. He still crossed the finish line third but he was assessed a one-lap penalty for passing during a caution period and fell to sixth, allowing Bobby Rahal to claim third.

Mario Andretti, drove only 23 laps before an engine problem ended his 29th and final Indy 500 bid in 32nd place, on spot ahead of last-placed Roberto Guerrero.

"It's a big letdown for something as stupid as this," Andretti said. "It's disappointing when you're competitive and it's early. Everything was paying off. Now it's over."

## Rockets survive late rally to beat Jazz

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (R) — Kenny Smith scored 25 points and the Houston Rockets survived a late rally to beat the Utah Jazz 80-78 Sunday and take a commanding 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven Western Conference finals.

Hakeem Olajuwon added a quiet — by his standards — 16 points and nine rebounds for the Rockets, who can clinch their second trip to the NBA finals with a victory at home in game five Tuesday.

"We feel we have one game to win in three," said Smith. "It's a race to four. Right now we feel real comfortable, confident, and we'll be very, very aggressive on Tuesday."

The teams combined for a playoff record low 23 points in the second quarter, with Smith accounting for 10 of Houston's 13 points.

Smith said that he had tried to be more aggressive with Utah putting extra defensive pressure on Olajuwon, the league's most valuable player.

"They're sending two or three guys at him," said Smith. "So it's imperative that you take your time and be aggressive once you get the basketball. They're really daring you sometimes to shoot the basketball."

"That was tough, very tough," said Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich. "They doubled and tripled on Olajuwon and he had to kick it out."

"The other guys got the job done," said Olajuwon. "Kenny Smith was in a groove. You can't just go after one man with an NBA team this far advanced in the playoffs."

The Rockets led by as many as seven points in the final minute of the fourth quarter, but John Stockton hit a 3-pointer with 13.5 seconds remaining to cut the margin to 80-78.

Before the ball was inbounded, Stockton drew an offensive foul on Houston rookie Sam Cassell, giving the Jazz a chance to tie the game.

Thanks to a malfunctioning scoreboard clock, Utah had considerably more than 13 seconds to get off a shot, but could only manage an off-balance jumper in the lane by Tom Chambers. The Rockets grabbed the rebound and ran out the clock.

Smith's 10-point second quarter helped the Rockets build a 38-31 halftime lead.

Utah rallied to within 50-49 on Karl Malone's 18-foot baseline jumper with 3:38 left in the third quarter. But Vernon Maxwell answered with a 3-pointer and Houston closed the quarter with a 10-1 run to establish a 60-50 lead.

Malone led Utah with 25 points and 14 rebounds. Jeff Hornacek added 18 points and Stockton finished with 17 points and six assists.

The Jazz shot 37 per cent from the field and missed 10 of 29 free-throw attempts. Houston, looking to go the finals for the first time since losing to Boston in 1986, hit 40 per cent of its field-goal attempts and was 17-for-21 from the line.

The previous record low for a playoff quarter was 25 points, set by the Golden State Warriors and Los Angeles Lakers in the second quarter of a game on April 22, 1977.

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## Little-known German beats Krickstein, reaches quarterfinals of French Open

PARIS (AP) — German teenager Hendrik Dreckmann, the least experienced player left in the field, upset American Aaron Krickstein in straight sets Monday to reach the French Open quarterfinals.

Dreckmann will face Sweden's Magnus Larsson, who crushed Jaime Yzaga of Peru, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2. Larsson, ranked 46th in the world, said Yzaga appeared weary from a five-set victory over Michael Chang Saturday.

"He made a lot of unforced errors and didn't really get into the match," Larsson said. "It was pretty easy from the start."

Another fourth-round match ended early when Argentina's Javier Frana withdrew with a pulled stomach muscle while trailing Spaniard Alberto Berasategui, 6-2, 6-0.

Berasategui, who also had a walkover in the first round against Wayne Ferreira, will play in the quarterfinals against the winner of a late match between the No. 5 seed Goran Ivanisevic and Italy's Andrea Gaudenzi.

Krickstein made critical double faults early against Dreckmann, while the 19-year-old German played with cool consistency in a 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 victory.

"I didn't feel that comfortable today, I'm not really sure why," Krickstein said. "I didn't play nearly as well as I would have liked."

Dreckmann, ranked only 89th in the world, has never won a tournament and lost in straight sets in the first round of the Australian Open this year, his only previous Grand Slam.

"It's unbelievable, and I'm really happy with it," Dreckmann said. "Maybe Aaron didn't play his best, and I got some chances and was able to take them."

Of the 10 German men entered here — including No. 2 seed Michael Stich — Dreckmann was the only one to get

past the second round. He beat 121st-ranked qualifier Dimitri Poliakov of Ukraine, upset 15th-seeded clay-court expert Carlos Costa of Spain, then beat 35th-ranked American veteran Richey Reneberg.

Krickstein, ranked 33rd, ousted a listless Stich in the second round, but admitted afterward that he would need to play better to keep advancing. He went on to win his third-round match, but his opponent was a qualifier from the Czech Republic, 27th-ranked Radek Radek.

Krickstein jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first set, but double-faulted to allow Dreckmann to draw even, then double-faulted twice to go down 4-5 before the German served out the set.

In the third set, Krickstein saved two match points with a sizzling serve returns before hitting a backhand wide to give Dreckmann the victory.

"He doesn't look like a great player... But he's in the quarters so he must be doing something right," Krickstein said.

In the upset-filled bottom half of the men's draw, Ivanisevic was the only seed among the eight players reaching the fourth round.

In the star-studded top half of the draw, two high-voltage quarterfinals are scheduled for Tuesday. Top-seeded Pete Sampras will play two-time champion Jim Courier, the No. 7 seed, and fourth-seeded Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine will play defending champion Sergi Bruguera, the No. 6 seed.

Courier seeks another crack at the crown he won in 1991 and 1992. Sampras, No. 1 in the world, wants to win the one-Grand Slam title that has eluded him and become the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to capture all four.

Sampras rated Courier, who thrives on clay, as the favourite, but added, "It will be a war."

Sampras' serve-and-volley game is better suited to grass



Mary Pierce of France hits a backhand during her fourth-round match against South African Amanda Coetzer at the French Open. Pierce won in two straight sets 6-1, 6-1 (AP photo)

and hardcourts than the red clay of Roland Garros stadium. But he has laboured to improve on the surface, seeking the Grand Slam sweep that he describes as the biggest challenge of his career.

Courier has only won twice in 12 matches against Sampras, but looks forward to shifting their rivalry to clay.

"It should be extra interesting," Courier said. "His serve is always effective, but it will be slightly less effective on this court."

Bruguera beat Medvedev in straight sets in the French semifinals last year before dethroning Courier in the final. Medvedev answered by winning in straight sets on clay last

month in Monte Carlo. "I would generally like to face Bruguera, because he is a defending champion," Medvedev said. "There is something I can take from him."

Bruguera reached the final last year without dropping a set, and has not lost one here so far this year.

The women's quarterfinals take place Tuesday with top-seeded Steffi Graf against Francesca Schiavone of Argentina, No. 3. Another 3rd rounder, against France's Justine Henin, No. 2. Caroline Martinis, against No. 19 Sabine Hack of Germany, and No. 11 Mary Pierce against 10th-ranked Petra Ritter of Austria.

## Gullit quits Dutch World Cup squad

NOORDWIJK, Netherlands (AP) — Football star Rudi Gullit has walked out on the Dutch World Cup squad and will not play in the tournament, trainer Dick Advocaat announced here late Monday.

Advocaat said Gullit, who has only just returned to international football after a self-imposed exile, did not give any reasons for his departure.

The news is a major blow to the Netherlands' hopes of shining in the world showpiece starting June 17 — and a major blow for the event itself, with the dreadlocked Gullit rated as one of the world's most charismatic characters.

Gullit had only just returned to the side after quitting the Netherlands' qualifying campaign following a long-running row with Advocaat.

He buried the hatchet and returned to play in Friday's win over Scotland but was substituted at half-time and later criticised the Dutch game plan. Advocaat responded by saying he was in charge of the team and not Gullit.

The 31-year-old, who has won 64 international caps since his 1981 debut and scored 17 goals, originally announced his

retirement from the national team in 1992.

He then returned the following year, only to quit again after being substituted by Advocaat during the 2-2 draw with England at Wembley.

But the news that Advocaat would make way for Johan Cruyff during the United States finals made him change his mind — only for Cruyff to fall out with the Dutch football federation and turn down the job, Advocaat agreeing to continue.

Gullit, who married his companion Christina Pensa earlier this month, had a fine season for Italian club Sampdoria last season, scoring 15 goals, and was re-signed by his former club AC Milan on a million-dollar contract.

European footballer of the year in 1987, he survived a series of career-threatening knee injuries to confirm his star status at AC Milan alongside Dutch teammates Marco Van Basten and Frank Rijkaard.

He won an Italian league title with Milan in 1988 with the side, followed by successive European championship with Netherlands.

## Derby's double power

LONDON (AP) — This year's English Derby promises to be one of the most open for years — and the weather looks set to play a key role.

A mere five days ago Sheikh Mohammad would have held high hopes of a first victory in the classic, as rain fell heavily to soften up the Epsom turf.

Then Craven stakes winner King's Theatre, who will be ridden by last year's Derby winning jockey, the mercurial Michael Kinane, looked well-positioned to make up for his disappointing show on Newmarket's firm ground in the 2,000 Guineas.

Now, at the end of rare dry British bank holiday weekend, the ground is firming up rapidly, and the odds are tumbling on Dante stakes winner Erhaab, who broke the track record in his York triumph.

When he returned to the enclosure Willie Carson, who will pilot Hamdan Al Maktoum's colt Wednesday, was heard to shout to trainer John Dunlop that the Derby was in the bag provided the ground stayed good.

Dunlop hedges his bets with Khamaseen, the Sandown Classic Trial runner-up, who relishes the 12 furlong distance but is only likely to give the 58-year-old Lester Piggott a

realistic chance of victory if the rain returns.

The Sheikh's better chance will be with the Irish Godsey-trained Sandown winner Linney Head, who, along with Khamaseen, will have prompted stronger backing after Sandown third-place horse Three Stars' victory in the Derby Italiano.

Broadway Tower has a good chance of giving John Hills victory in his first classic. His triumph in the Chester Vase has sent him to the top of the betting and, despite his lack of pedigree, he will not be the favourite.

Hills, who also has hopes with Wind in Her Hair in the Oaks on Saturday, would dearly love to go one better than his father Barry, who had a string of seconds in the Derby.

Another horse with the staying power is Sunshack, who will give Pat Eddery his last Derby ride for Khalid Abdullah.

Having impressed with a four-length victory at St Cloud, and provided the ground is not too good, he could profit from a fast pace set by the 25-strong field.

Guineas Master Bailey, looks unlikely to repeat his triumph over 12 furlongs, having faded badly after a mile at York.

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	PHILADELPHIA	PLAZA	CONCORD	AMMOUN THEATRE	Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	ANHAN THEATRE
	Waleed Tawfiq in <b>1. Goodbye, Single Life</b> Arabic The star of the movie will attend the shows. Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	<b>2. ALADDIN</b> Shows: 2:30, 5:30	<b>CONCORD "1"</b> <b>THE GETAWAY</b> Shows: 12:30, 1:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 <b>CONCORD "2"</b> <b>LAMBADA</b> Shows: 12:30, 1:45, 6, 8:15, 10:15	The political comedy play <b>FORBIDDEN FORBIDDEN</b> Every night at 8:30 p.m.	Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy <b>"PUNCTURED BAG"</b>	The political comedy play: <b>"WHAT A PEACE!"</b> (Al' Salam Ya Salam) At: 8:20 p.m. For reservations please call 625155



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Majali visits cancer centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Monday visited Al Amal Cancer Centre project, where he was familiarised with the work progress at the project, expected to be finished by the end of the year. Dr. Majali stressed keenness of the Jordanian leadership, government and people to support this vital project. The Prime Minister expressed hope that the centre will be a regional one in the future, serving the Arab Nation as a whole.

## Libya completes pullout from Aouzou

TUNIS (R) — Libyan troops have completed their withdrawal from the Aouzou Strip which they had occupied since 1973, a "badly" diplomat in the Libyan capital said Monday. The diplomat said a handover ceremony would take place later Monday in the desert strip which Chad and Libya fought over for years. A United Nations observers team monitored the withdrawal from the 42,000 square mile (110,000 square kilometres), which is thought to contain oil and uranium, the Chadian diplomat added. A Chadian government delegation headed by Interior Minister Abdelmajid Izzou is in the Aouzou Strip for the handover from a Libyan official delegation headed by Libya's Foreign Affairs Minister Omar Al Montasser, he said.

## Afghan rivals fight on

KABUL (AFP) — More than 350 well-dressed but grim Afghan intellectuals attended a seminar here Monday, and called for the protection of human rights as rival factions traded gunfire in west Kabul. "The Afghan people have suffered so much for so long, they need peace and security," said Mohammad Yasin, chairman of a citizens' forum which called the Servants of Peace and Reconciliation. The two-day seminar began at the Intercontinental Hotel under the auspices of the forum, reflecting the agony and desperation of the war-weary residents of Kabul. The fighting between forces loyal to President Burhanuddin Rabbani and those opposing him has claimed more than 2,500 lives and left more than 17,000 wounded in Kabul since January. The anti-Rabbani alliance mainly includes the Hezb-I-Islami faction of Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and the Uzbek warriors of former Communist General Abdul Rashid Dostum. Several peace initiatives by Afghan mediators and outsiders have failed to halt the interminable bloodshed.

## Israelis, Palestinians in fight over radio

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — A dispute over equipment stuck in Israeli customs is threatening Palestinian hopes of launching a radio station in time to broadcast PLO chief Yasser Arafat's historic arrival in Jericho next month. Sam'an Khoury, deputy board chairman of the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation, said Monday that Israel wanted unspecified taxes on equipment flown from Germany last week to Tel Aviv Airport. While short on cash, Palestinians hope to broadcast Mr. Arafat's arrival next month in Jericho, seat of Palestinian self-rule under a PLO peace deal with Israel launched this month. Israelis and Palestinians met Sunday to try to resolve the matter. Captain Hani Jeshurun, spokeswoman for Israel's coordinator in the occupied territories, said despite meetings with Palestinians to try to solve the problem, "it takes time because you can't just start a radio station in a day." The European Union has donated more than \$2 million in broadcast equipment to the Palestinians for 1993 and an as-yet undetermined sum for 1994, Mr. Khoury said.

## Somali talks postponed again

NAIROBI (AFP) — Talks between Somalia's warring factions scheduled to open here Monday have been postponed for the fourth time in two months, a U.N. official said. A new date for the talks will be announced later, after further consultations between the United Nations and the Somali groups, said Huntley Anderson, an official of the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM). The decision to postpone the negotiations was taken at a U.N. officials' meeting held here during the weekend Monday and attended by the U.N. secretary-general's special representative to Somalia, Lissana Konyate. Mr. Anderson could not give details on the reasons for the postponement.

## Clinton's approval at 9-month low

WASHINGTON (AFP) — President Bill Clinton's approval rating has dropped to its lowest level in nine months, according to a poll. The survey conducted May 23-28 by the Harris Poll found that 42 per cent gave Mr. Clinton a positive rating against 48 per cent in early April, while his negative rating was up 56 per cent from 51 per cent two months ago. It was the lowest approval rating Mr. Clinton has been since August 1993, when it dropped to 41 per cent. Some groups that reliably vote Democratic, those with lower incomes and education, gave the president low ratings. Only 40 per cent of those who earned under \$7,500 annually gave him good marks, and just 41 per cent with no high school degrees approved. The view that Mr. Clinton lacks foreign policy leadership could be pushing his ratings down, according to Humphrey Taylor, president of Louis Harris and Associates, who also noted Mr. Clinton's problems with the Whitewater real estate deal and the sexual harassment charge recently made against him. The president's lowest rating came in June last year, when it plunged to 35 per cent. The Harris survey of 1,253 adults had a margin of error of plus or minus three per cent.

## Slovenia to stand firm in row with Italy

LJUBLJANA (R) — Slovenia has vowed to stand its ground in a row with Italy over the legacy of World War II and is confident the European Union (EU) will support its case. In a weekend interview Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek dismissed demands from Rome for compensation for Italian property taken over by Communist Yugoslavia after the war. "There are no Italian claims left," he said. "We have not changed our attitude and we don't intend to reconsider." Relations between the former Yugoslav republic and its powerful neighbour have been shaken since Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's cabinet, which includes three neo-fascists, was sworn in earlier this month. Mr. Berlusconi has tried to reassure nervous Adriatic neighbours Slovenia and Croatia that the neo-fascists' demands for the return of Italian coastal lands lost to Yugoslavia after World War II will not become official government policy. But last week, Rome angered Slovenia by pushing off a list of states considered as potential European Union members, saying property and other disputes must be settled first. "We don't like such Italian action," Mr. Drnovsek told Reuters and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

## Pope says a definitive 'no' to women priests

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul Monday forcefully reaffirmed the Catholic Church's ban on women priests, saying the ruling was definitive and not open to debate. "I declare that the church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be a definitive held by all the church's faithful," the Pope said in a letter to bishops. Although not specifically labelled as infallible, the solemn tone of the letter would make it difficult if not virtually impossible for a future Pope to alter the ban, church sources said. It was the first papal pronouncement on female ordination since the Church of England created women priests last March in a move that brought relations with Rome to their lowest point in centuries. In the six-page letter, titled "on reserving priestly ordination to men alone," the Pope said it was necessary to write it because despite the long-standing ban "in some places it is nonetheless considered still open to debate."

## Rwanda rebels seize army camp near Gitarama — radio

KIGALI (RT) — Rwandan rebels said Monday they had captured a military camp close to the town of Gitarama where the government has retreated southwest on the capital.

An announcement on rebel radio said the Nyanza Camp had fallen to the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), whose advance on Gitarama itself had forced the government to flee.

A senior United Nations official in Kigali said the U.N. had heard a similar report and was still checking.

The U.N. resumed evacuation of civilians trapped behind front lines in Rwanda's capital Monday, a day after evacuations were halted for security problems, a U.N. source said.

The evacuations have resumed and hundreds of civilians have already been ferried across the front lines," the source told Reuters.

The United Nations source said the warring parties had given sufficient guarantees about the security of the convoys during talks in Kigali between representatives of the RPF and government army.

The direct talks are part of a U.N. plan to halt what some relief agencies have called genocidal violence in Rwanda which has killed an estimated half a million people.

U.N. convoys evacuated about 1,500 people between Friday and Sunday in the first breakthrough by the world body in its effort to end more than seven weeks of bloodletting in the tiny central African state.

Warring parties in Rwanda met for the first time Monday for talks on a U.N. truce plan to halt violence.

Representatives of the rebel and government armies held their first direct talks while

gunfire echoed around the capital Kigali where guerrillas have gained an upperhand.

The main goal of the talks is to arrive at a ceasefire to improve conditions for the Rwandan people and allow aid to reach them," Brigadier-General Marcel Gatsinzi, heading the government side, told Reuters.

"I have no option but to believe in the goodwill of the RPF," he added.

Colonel Frank Mugambage led the RPF side, which says it will discuss with the military but not the government which it does not recognise, at talks which started at 10.30 a.m. (0830 GMT).

The two sides were scheduled to discuss a draft ceasefire proposal prepared by the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) calling for an immediate end to hostilities.

Opening the talks, UNAMIR deputy force commander Brigadier-General Henri Anyidoho said the meeting should build on the impetus given to the peace process by U.N. special envoy Iqbal Rizvi who visited Rwanda last week.

The talks were delayed briefly after the U.N. armoured personnel carrier Cansini was travelling in from the Hotel Des Mille Collines in a government part of Kigali broke down 250 metres from UNAMIR headquarters and had to be towed in. Volleys of RPF small arms fire cracked over the U.N. building, in a rebel-held eastern part of the city, before the talks started and despite U.N. calls for a truce to be observed during the talks sporadic mortar fire could also be heard.

RPF forces pressed their offensive on government

troops overnight, fighting to control their enemies' last exit road to the southwest of Kigali around the outskirts area known as Qadhafi's Corner.

Fighting in other parts of the city resumed at daybreak and a mortar bomb exploded outside the hotel in a rebel-held area where journalists stay, witnesses said.

RPF radio late Sunday blamed the government side for suspending an exchange of Tutsi and Hutu refugees across the front lines in Kigali and said this could impede talks.

Radio Muhabura (the Beacon) alleged that the government had violated the one-for-one exchange agreement by demanding that all 5,500 refugees in rebel-held Amahoro Stadium, many of them Hutus, be sent to government territory in exchange for just 175 mainly Tutsi people in the Hotel Des Mille Collines.

U.N. officers said the evacuation of refugees from Kigali would not resume Monday because the warring sides had not given enough security guarantees for the convoys.

Around half a million Rwandan Hutus fleeing rebel advances are cut off near the town of Gitarama, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Monday.

ICRC spokesman Tomy Burgener said the refugees had fled from the capital Kigali, which is falling to the Tutsi-dominated rebels, and others had joined them from the south.

"It's become extremely serious. It's very difficult for aid agencies to cope with this sort of situation," he said.

"They have little food or water and the medical situation is very serious," he added.

"Mr. Burgener said the



A displaced Tutsi Rwandan child cries as she and her mother wait for food at Kahaya refugee camp, south of Kigali. Some 14,000 refugees take shelter in this camp and get food every three days (AFP photos)

flood of refugees along the road from Kigali to Gitarama, 40 kilometres to the south, began last Wednesday.

With the main road south, to Butare, also cut by fighting, thousands more had been forced to turn back to Gitarama. Their only escape route now was to the east via the town of Kibuye, on Lake Kivu, and then into either Burundi or Zaire.

The ICRC has a hospital in

the town and was handing out limited supplies of food, but could not cope with the numbers, Dr. Burgener added.

A spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, which is helping to care for more than a million people who have fled Rwanda's borders, said no major refugee movements to third countries had been reported in the past few days.

## Rival Kurdish factions meet in Turkey

ANKARA (AFP) — Rival Iraqi Kurdish factions met in Silopi, southeast Turkey, Monday in a Turkish-backed initiative to end fighting in northern Iraq, the semi-official agency Anadolu reported.

Representatives from the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) who have been battling since the beginning of May took part in the meeting with Turkish officials.

But neither KDP leader

Massoud Barzani nor PUK head Jalal Talabani attended the meeting in Silopi, near the Iraqi border.

Fighting has continued in northern Iraq despite ceasefire agreements and split the region into PUK and KDP-controlled zones.

Tehran Radio said Monday that thousands of Kurds had fled their homes in northeast Iraq amid intensified fighting between the two factions which has left at least 100 dead.

The radio reported stepped-

up clashes in Arbil, Qala Dila, Sulaymaniyah and the Haj-Omran region of Halabja, near the Iranian border.

Northern Iraq has been under Kurdish control since it was established with the help of the U.S.-led coalition which drove Iraqi occupying forces out of Kuwait in February 1991.

The Silopi meeting also discussed plans to hold fresh elections in Iraqi Kurdistan, Anadolu said.

## Clinton envoy assesses Ethiopia famine

ADDIS ABABA (R) — U.S. President Bill Clinton's special envoy toured food projects and met with Ethiopian leaders Monday on the second leg of a mission to help 50 million people threatened by war and famine.

Brian Atwood, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, is

leading a bipartisan delegation including members of Congress and representatives of private voluntary organisations working in the area.

"The U.S. delegation will have a close look at the situation and devise possible ways of dispatching considerable amount of relief assistance to minimise the human tragedy,"

said Mr. Atwood, Mr. Clinton's top foreign aid administrator.

Mr. Atwood, who on arrival in Addis Ababa Sunday said Washington was deeply concerned about famine in Africa's oldest nation, was also to hold talks with senior Ethiopian government officials and President Meles Zenawi.

## S. Korea prepares for showdown; no more compromise with North

SEOUL (R) — South Korean President Kim Young-Sam Monday ordered his cabinet to draw up contingency plans to deal with a defiant North Korea, which shut the door on international inspections at its nuclear plant last week.

A presidential spokesman told reporters Mr. Kim called a meeting of security-related ministers to prepare for all contingencies, including a showdown between the isolated Stalinist North and the international community.

"(The government) should prepare itself for the possibility of an unexpected move by North Korea facing a crisis," the spokesman quoted Mr. Kim as telling the meeting.

North Korea last week refused to let U.N. experts take samples of spent fuel from a key nuclear reactor at Yongbyon, 100 kilometres from Pyongyang, to determine whether the plant was used as a source of plutonium for atomic bombs.

Mr. Kim recently warned that North Korea might seek a military provocation against the South to avert an internal crisis stemming from warring economic difficulties.

On Monday, Mr. Kim said the world faced "a critical challenge" by North Korea, which ignored an international call to stop refuelling the Yongbyon reactor.

Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), raised alarm bells in a report to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Friday, saying the IAEA might not be able to verify nuclear safeguards.

"We will have to take steps

to cope with various situations expected by the growing chances of the North Korean nuclear issue being sent back to the U.N. Security Council," Mr. Kim was quoted as saying.

North Korea, which denies Western charges it is secretly developing nuclear weapons, has said Security Council action such as economic sanctions would be considered an act of war.

A senior Seoul government official said Mr. Kim made clear in Monday's meeting there would be no more IAEA or U.S. concession to persuade Pyongyang to allow full inspections.

"There cannot be any more compromise as we are approaching a point where the IAEA's ability to assess the history of the reactor may be lost," he said.

"Washington and the IAEA are still seeking a solution through dialogue and I would not say the North is already on an irreversible collision course. But any agreement should follow an end to North Korea's refusal to meet IAEA demands."

The Seoul official said it would be a matter of days, not weeks, before North Korea was on "full collision course" if it continued removing the spent fuel rods at the present pace.

A nuclear expert told Reuters the speed could represent a danger to those carrying out the task. "This is a complicated process and should not be carried out at such speed," said the expert, who declined to be identified.

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sang-Joo sum-

moned the ambassadors of the United States, Japan, Russia and China Monday for urgent consultations on the North Korean nuclear standoff.

Foreign Ministry officials said Mr. Han began the consultations by first meeting with U.S. Ambassador James Laney shortly after 11:00 a.m. (0240 GMT) at the request of President Kim Young-Sam.

The meeting followed an inter-ministerial coordination meeting at the presidential palace.

It also came one day ahead of an expected U.N. Security Council meeting to discuss possible sanctions on North Korea.

Mr. Kim leaves for Moscow this week for four days of talks with Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin that will focus on regional security issues, a presidential aide said Monday.

"During their talks, President Kim and President Yeltsin will discuss the security situation in the Korean peninsula and North East Asia," the aide told reporters.

Mr. Kim is to leave for Moscow Wednesday for a four-day stay and will then visit Uzbekistan, where about 200,000 ethnic Koreans are living.

Mr. Kim's visit to Moscow and Tashkent follows Mr. Yeltsin's trip to Seoul in November 1992 and Uzbek President Islam Karimov's South Korean visit.

## COLUMN

## 2 Shakespeare plays may have been Marlowe's

LONDON (R) — Two of William Shakespeare's early plays may have been the work of his contemporary Christopher Marlowe, according to a computer review of their prose styles. Two researchers — computer scientist Robert Matthews and literary scholar Thomas Merriam — used a "neural network" computer which was programmed to learn from experience like a set of simple brain cells. They let the computer loose on Shakespeare's Henry VI Parts Two and Three and then on two anonymous plays, The Tragedy Of Richard Duke Of York, that are widely regarded as being the works of Marlowe. Merriam said: "Shakespeare began his career as an actor, not a dramatist. These findings suggest his first efforts at play-writing leaned heavily on the works of Christopher Marlowe whose literary talents he ultimately eclipsed." The computer findings were published Monday in the journal Literary And Linguistic Review. The researchers hope their findings will stimulate more cooperation between computer scientists and arts researchers.

## Taxi driver nabs back-seat bandits

BANGKOK (R) — Two jittery young robbers were arrested in a Western suburb of Bangkok after being locked in the taxi with the driver's takings, police said Monday. The two men pulled a small knife on a taxi driver and managed to extract 400 baht (\$16) before the driver stopped the car, activated the central locking mechanism, and dashed off to get the police. When police arrived on the scene they found the two desperately trying to smash a window to get out of the car. "They were too excited to realise that only three doors were locked. The driver's door was still unlocked," an officer told Reuters. The pair have been charged with robbery.

## Cows maul man as he walks his dogs

LONDON (AP) — Paramedics rescued a man mauled by a herd of cows Sunday. John Hine, 55, was crossing a field while walking his two golden retrievers near Tetbury, about 40 miles (60 kms) northwest of London, when the jersey cows spotted him. The cows knocked him to the ground, breaking his leg and badly bruising his chest, according to the local ambulance control officer, John Willis. Unable to move, Mr. Hine called for help on his cellular phone. His dogs barked to help paramedics locate their master in the boggy, secluded spot. "There were calves in the field, so I think the cows were being protective," Mr. Willis said. "We called in the police helicopters, and when it arrived all the cows came over to see what was going on," he said. None of the rescuers was attacked during Mr. Hine's evacuation to a hospital in Oxford, where he was reported in serious but stable condition.

## Parents plotted to kill daughter for 'disgrace'

MELBOURNE (R) — A Syrian-born couple plotted to kill their 17-year-old daughter because she had disgraced the family by dating an Australian boy, a court heard Monday. George Shoukan, 41, and his wife Amal Tawil, 36, asked two undercover police officers to kill their daughter by a drug overdose, prosecutor Jeremy Rapke said in a committal hearing at Brunswick Magistrates Court. Mr. Shoukan and Ms. Tawil, of the outer Melbourne suburb of Broadmeadows, are each charged with incitement to murder their daughter. Rema Tawil, 17, was angry at their daughter for dating an Australian teenager when an engagement to a man from an Islamic background had already been arranged for her. Rapke also said that the day before the police in November 1993, Mr. Shoukan shackled his daughter to a bed. He had dictated a suicide note to her, which she had written out of fear for her life, Mr. Rapke said.